

Congress is coming to Harrogate



See p. 8

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ABPS News, *for and about Societies*

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Cover picture: *Betty's Tea Rooms waiting to welcome you to Harrogate (p 8)*

An electronic copy of the newsletter can be viewed on the ABPS webpage www.abps.org.uk a few months after publication.

Contact details for ABPS are on the page by the inside rear cover.

Copy dates: please send your material as soon as ready; at present the copy deadlines are 15th January, 15th April, 15th July, 15th October. We cannot guarantee to include items in specific editions. Items may be edited for publication. Email copy is preferred (unformatted). Send copy to the editor: Keith S Burton (see p 62) Illustrations should not be assumed to be accurate as to size or colour.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN: July 2021



My last Chairman's message for ABPS News! I thought that I would look back to my main aims when I took over from John Baron four years ago: 1) To improve ABPS finances.

2) To raise the profile of ABPS.

3) To create a National Stamp Day on 6th May each year.

All of the above aimed to create more "joined up thinking" between the different organisations in our hobby.

Regarding finances, I have discussed these with our treasurer.

The late Edward Klempka had a number of interesting ideas involving insurance and sponsorship. During my time in office we have received generous sponsorships for specific events from Corbitts; Grosvenor; Stanley

Gibbons; Chris Rainey; Stamp Insurance Services and Cavendish. Many PTS members have taken advertisements in our different publications year after year, and I thank them all. However, we still need more if we are to continue supporting philatelic events as we have been. Recently, Eddie Mays and Barry Stagg have been re-branding our Friends and Patrons...full details are elsewhere in this magazine. Hopefully this will help our income, and thanks must go to both Eddie and Barry for their efforts.

Raising the profile of ABPS... I suppose this really is for others to judge, but the ABPS Committee have worked hard... John Davies and Susan Henderson have continued their great work for junior philately and have won awards for their website. Keith Burton does a wonderful job with ABPS News which has recently been rewarded with a FEPA Award of Merit. We now have banners designed by our Chairman-elect, Steve Harrison, which advertise the things which ABPS offer to all societies and collectors...these are gradually being seen at more philatelic events. I would conclude that perhaps our profile is moving in the right direction although there is still plenty to do.

Establishing a National Stamp Day to celebrate our hobby has not yet been a great success. Some societies have started putting this on their programmes, and some do have a celebration meeting. However, I have failed to get a real National Day recognised, let alone a special issue of stamps each year. When I step down from being Chairman, I do intend to continue with this... you never know, with just one main focus, I might get somewhere.

So, does any of this improve "Joined up thinking" about our hobby? I think relations with the PTS are certainly good. Suzanne Rae and Isobel Klempka have been a revelation, and having Bill Barrell on our committee and Nick Martin working with exhibits bodes well for the future.

Regarding handing over to Steve, this will officially happen at Congress in September which will be at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Harrogate between Thursday 23rd and Sunday 26th, the week before Stampex. This is the Centenary Congress of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists, signed by HM King George V. The first public signing was at Harrogate in 1921. Contact Steve Harrison to book for the event. Accommodation bookings should be made directly with the hotel.

Finally, I must thank Gerald Marriner, who is also stepping down from his job as Congress Chairman, a job he has done for 10 years. Steve Harrison is also taking on this role. Gerald has been a constant support for me, and was justly rewarded for all his hard work with the Congress Medal in 2019.

Finally, finally, I would like to thank the Committee members, and all those who have helped me during my years as Chairman. I'll look forward to seeing you all in Harrogate.

Graham Winters FRPSL

Preserving our History.

The Royal - The home of the John Sacher Library and the Spear Museum of Philatelic History - includes in its collections many items relating to the history of philatelic clubs and societies. These include specialist and local, enterprise and educational, past and present organisations, which have formed the backbone of British Philately since its beginnings in the 1860s.

We want to preserve this history and to make it better known - not least amongst philatelists.

Chris King will be making a presentation on Tuesday 28th September 2021 at 14:00 at 15 Abchurch Lane: "*Clubs and Societies: Organising UK Philately – The first 150 Years.*" We are hoping this will be a hybrid event with guests able to attend in person at Abchurch Lane, or via Zoom.

The Royal is always interested in providing a new home for Society records, and this includes pins and badges, medals and awards, programme cards and stationery, as well as minute books and agendas. There's fascinating and unexpected material to be found – such as the great packet fraud in Brighton a hundred years ago, and the amazing work done by the Herts Philatelic Society during the First World War. So, if your Society is looking for a home for its past records and ephemera – or current material that you think should be preserved, please let Nicola Davies know at DaviesN@rpsl.org

Chris King RDP FRPSL

Editorial



It has been an interesting year. If I was a pessimist I would be referring to holidays being cancelled or postponed, the lack of fairs, exhibitions, society meetings and visiting speakers bringing fascinating material to show.

You will probably realise by now that I am an optimist so my interest is in the way that people have responded to the situation. I have been heartened by the way that people have helped each other, the way that the NHS and others have responded - giving up most of their family life to fulfil the needs of the sick, and sometimes becoming victims themselves. I have been delighted to be involved in Zoom meetings all over the country and once or twice outside it. I have learnt much from my first tentative steps into PowerPoint and been helped by others to improve my technique. If you have suffered from one of my displays - my apologies but I have enjoyed building them and giving them and I intend to go on doing so. Philately is on its way into the future and I mean to be part of it.

I felt that things couldn't really get better - but they have. You have responded so well too. You rose to my requests for articles as the number of society reports fell away and those on fairs and exhibitions were non-existent, until two Virtual Stampexes showed what was possible. My congratulations and thanks to all those who responded so positively.

It couldn't get better - and then it did. It was suggested that ABPS News, your magazine, should be put forward for an award from FEPA (The European Federation of Philatelic Associations). It was not easy to fill in a form that "Blows our own trumpet" but I did what I could. I felt sure that there would be many other more deserving societies, magazines, websites and so on. It was a great surprise to learn that we had been recognised by FEPA with an award of a Certificate of Merit. My good friends from Leeds Philatelic Society have been equally honoured with the award of a Certificate of Appreciation for Outstanding Activities to Promote Philately. Both certificates will be awarded by **Bill Hedley**, the President of FEPA, at the Banquet at the ABPS Congress in Harrogate.

Hearty Congratulations to Leeds and to all of you who have provided the material for the News.

Keith Burton

Society anniversaries

At this difficult time the opportunity for celebrations has been very limited. Not surprisingly there have been no reports relating to anniversaries this quarter. If you have any in the remainder of the year we will be pleased to rejoice with you.

Editor

Lawrence Richard Harlow 1927-2021



It is with great sadness that we announce the death of **Richard Harlow**, the founder of the Italy & Colonies Study Circle.

Richard was a late conscript in WWII and was posted to Italy between 1945 and 1947. He met his future wife Pia whilst in Udine and fell in love with both Pia and Italy.

His interest in Italian philately began soon after the end of the war, resulting in many superb collections.

After the war Richard spent many years as a police officer, retiring in 1977.

Richard was also involved with several auction houses and acted as a philatelic consultant.

He formed the Italy & Colonies Study Circle in 1974 with prominent philatelists, including **Roy Dehn, Denis Vandervelde, Cecil Teall, Alan Becker, Grahame Lindsey, Michael Harlow, Enrico Forte, Bill Soulsby and John Davies**. From an initial 30 members, the study circle grew to over 200 worldwide members.

Richard with his noted background in philatelic auctions ran the auction for the study circle with quarterly auctions of around 800 lots, all knocked down usually in less than 90 minutes.

He was instrumental in organising member trips, mostly to Italy, but also to the British Virgin Islands and the USA. Most of the trips and the experiences are still relived among those members still living.

The quarterly fil-Italia journal became an award-winning journal and is highly regarded by members and philately in general.

In 2014 (ICSC 40th anniversary) members presented and awarded the "Richard Harlow Trophy" to Richard for his unstinting efforts in running the circle. This trophy is awarded annually to competition winners or members whose service to the study circle requires special acknowledgement.

On 23rd November 2019 the Italian Federation of Philatelic Societies centenary celebrations at Verona's most popular national stamp exhibition and trade show included the elevation of The Italy and Colonies Honorary Secretary Richard Harlow to "Meritorious Member of the Golden Roll of Italian Philately".

He will be missed by all those involved with Italian Philately

Richard is survived by his wife Pia and sons Michael, Mark & Paul.

Paul Woodness

Philatelic Congress of Great Britain

23rd - 26th SEPTEMBER 2021

Don't miss out on booking your place at Congress!

Bookings are now coming in steadily for the 102nd Philatelic Congress of Great Britain which this year is being held in the picturesque town of Harrogate in North Yorkshire. Don't miss out on booking your place at Congress!

The event will be based at the Crowne Plaza hotel - one of the leading hotels of the town. The Congress organising committee has been joined by members of local philatelic societies to help plan and run the event, and to ensure there is a true Yorkshire feel to the event!

The Congress will be a significant milestone as it sees the centenary of the signing of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists (RDP). Also the prestigious Association of British Philatelic Societies (ABPS) Congress medal and Awards of Merit will be presented to their recipients during the course of the Congress.



Away from awards, the event will include a wide variety of philatelic presentations with material covering a very broad spectrum of interests. The Kay Goodman lecture, to be given on the Friday morning of Congress, looks each year at a significant issue within the hobby. This year the lecture will focus on the future of the hobby in the light of the pandemic when local, national and international meetings

were not possible. How will the hobby recover? In what direction will the hobby move? How will meetings be held? Is the use of Zoom something that is with us into the future? These are some of the issues that will be addressed.

For full details of how to book for Congress, including booking rooms at the Crowne Plaza hotel, contact **Steven Harrison**, Vice Chairman of ABPS, by emailing him at sharrison500@btinternet.com calling him on 0121 313 0671 or even writing to him at 56 Woodberry Drive, Sutton Coldfield B76 2RH.

The booking form is also available on the ABPS website - www.abps.org.uk

Other hotels and accommodation are available in Harrogate to suit all pockets. Information is available from the Harrogate Tourist Information Centre - 01423 537300.

Steven Harrison

Harrogate looks forward to welcoming you. Sun or rain, there are beautiful gardens. There are local waters (sulphur not advised), gin, toffee or chocolates.



The Kay Goodman Lecture

Harrogate, 24th September 2021



Each year the ABPS Philatelic Congress of GB includes the Kay Goodman Lecture which is intended to stimulate discussion. This year's event *Have Philatelic Societies a Future?* is no exception. There have been many lectures on the subject but still societies close at a steady rate. This past year we have embraced technology and this is undoubtedly the way forward for societies to join the 21st Century. This lecture explores how even the smallest society can survive and grow.

The speaker is **Richard Smith**, Secretary of Leeds Philatelic Society. His enthusiasm has helped the Leeds Society achieve a FEPA Certificate of Appreciation for Outstanding Activities for the Promotion of Philately.



All are welcome to the Congress Hotel, Crowne Plaza, Kings Road, Harrogate, HG1 1XX for the lecture at 10.30 on Friday 24th September 2021. Tickets cost £5 for those not attending other Congress events. Please register with Steven Harrison sharrison500@btinternet.com Tel: +44 (0)121 313 0671 Mobile: +44 (0)7979 597498

The lecture will be recorded. Please see the ABPS website for details www.abps.org.uk



FEPA AWARDS FOR 2020

The FEPA Board is delighted to announce the winner of the FEPA Medal for Exceptional Service to Organised Philately for 2020. It is:

Jonas Hällström (Sweden)



Warmest congratulations to Jonas for receiving this award in recognition of his many outstanding philatelic achievements.

The following Societies have been awarded FEPA Certificates of Appreciation for outstanding activities in promoting philately:

- A) Briefmarkensammlerverein St. Pölten (Austria).
- B) ČeskoMoravská Společnost pro Poštovní Historii (Czech Republic)
- C) Collezionisti Italiani di Francobolli Ordinari – C.I.F.O. (Italy)
- D) Verein Siegburger Briefmarkenfreunde e.V. (Germany).
- E) Internetowe Koło Filatelistów i-KF (Poland)



A



B



C



D



E

And most importantly from our point of view

Leeds Philatelic Society (UK)

Leeds Philatelic Society, one of the oldest in the United Kingdom, has for over



131 years promoted the study, knowledge, application, and advancement of philately in this large, ethnically diverse city. Regular meetings have been held in the heart of the city, uninterrupted by two world wars and the recent pandemic, which presented most societies with a

major challenge. The committee of LPS was determined to continue its usual activities during this time by supporting and meeting with members. LPS contributed to wider discussions at the Association of British Philatelic Societies (ABPS) committee meetings, with the aim of encouraging other societies to adopt ZOOM techniques to keep going. A LPS PowerPoint presentation, considering how the effects of the pandemic might affect the longer-term future of philatelic societies, was originally presented at an ABPS committee meeting, and then made available at the First Virtual Stampex 2020.

In addition a FEPA Certificate of Merit has been awarded to:

ABPS News (Journal of ABPS)



ABPS News is the journal of the Association of British Philatelic Societies. It has appeared four times each year since 1994. It is dedicated to promoting philately in the UK and provides an invaluable mechanism for sharing information, news, views and advice on best practice between the Association and its member societies. During the pandemic it has been especially active in encouraging societies to continue their activities using Zoom technology,

giving advice to presenters on how to prepare slides using PowerPoint or equivalent programs, and urging them to prepare for a future in which technology will probably continue to play a major part in meetings and displays alongside more traditional methods. It has also moved rapidly towards digitisation of its regular issues which has given it increased flexibility in publication and distribution, and has enabled it to reduce its carbon footprint. Under its current editor it has become more innovative and has sought to bring a sharp insight to discussions about the future development of organised philately. It provides an excellent example of how interactions between a national association and its members can be developed in a mutually beneficial way.

ABPS accredited judges

The current list of ABPS accredited exhibition/competition judges can be found on the ABPS web site www.abps.org.uk Click on the “Exhibiting” tab, then the “Judging” tab that is on the 6th line of titles. The list is to the right.

Hungary Meets Many Tastes

An interview with **Malcolm Moodie**, new Chairman of the Hungarian PS of GB,
Mervyn Benford



Socially distanced interview of Malcolm Moodie (right) by Mervyn Benford

MB: How long have you been interested in Hungarian Philately and why choose Hungary?

MM: Ever since I was a young lad, so in excess of 60+ years. When I started collecting GB and Commonwealth were the dominant area for collecting amongst my peers. I felt it would be much more interesting to collect something else.

In 1956 the Hungarian uprising was front page news and being very young it sparked my interest in a country facing a difficult struggle. As a result, I began to discover the interesting factors surrounding Hungary and its stamp issues. This now goes way beyond stamps, involving a far broader view of Hungary's postal history.

MB: Can you elaborate?

MM: I am particularly interested in subjects prior to the end of WWII - especially the effect of the treaties of Versailles and Trianon that had a huge

impact on Hungary. Trianon has hung like a cloud over Hungary especially between the wars and during World War II, but continues to this day. In 1920, tied to Hapsburg defence and military policy, and being on the wrong side, Hungary lost some 70% of its land, 32% to Romania, 19% to Czechoslovakia, a similar amount to Yugoslavia and even 1.2% to Austria. Huge numbers of Hungarians found themselves aliens in a foreign land. Many felt dispossessed and this perception lingers.

The “*Justice for Hungary*” campaign encouraged after Trianon in Italy, USA and, in the UK, by Lord Rothermere, proprietor of “*The Daily Mail*,” led to politically convenient restorations (‘*Visszatért*’ or ‘homecoming’) arranged by Hitler and Mussolini 1938-41 and some by direct Hungarian occupation those Axis powers tolerated, but not accepted internationally. Not declaring war until 1941, but again on the wrong side, all were lost again in the 1946 treaties. Such significant border changes, twice in thirty years, provide a wealth of material for collectors, not least changes to railway and TPO routes, economics and public services.

MB: *Is there much else to interest prospective collectors?*

MM: There is much to capture the imagination of stamp collectors and postal historians. At first Hungary used the 1850 Austrian first issues, but in 1867 an imperial compromise gave a good measure of devolved independence. It commissioned its own stamps, converted postal markings from German to Hungarian but remained chained to the Austro-Hungarian empire. Collecting Hungarian postmarks on joint issues offers interesting possibilities.

The 1896 Budapest Millennium saw a remarkably early series of coloured postcards, postally-franked for domestic and foreign use. The small, independent issuing territories created in 1919 with the array of overprints, foreign occupations, rise of Communism, high inflation in the 1920's, locked under Soviet control from 1946 and eventual freedom and EU membership add twists and turns to an extremely interesting history. This is further enriched philatelically by collector themes such as revenue stamps, perfins, Cinderellas, postage due, airmail and stationery.

MB: *What do you think are the priorities for the Hungarian Philatelic Society of Great Britain?*

MM: As a society we need to be much more visible to the wider philatelic community. There may be numerous collectors of Hungarian material not even aware of this specialist group and therefore unaware of the huge reservoir of knowledge and help to be obtained from fellow collectors of Hungarian philately. Furthermore, I am sure there are plenty of stamp collectors and postal historians unaware of the sheer fascination of Hungary as a source of philatelic information.

We have 130 + members around the globe who are happy to share their knowledge. Our job is to encourage others to explore the challenges and joys of all things Hungarian.

The society produces four award winning journals each year, has two auctions and a packet circuit besides getting together twice a year to share and display material and knowledge.

MB: What plans has the society in the near future?

MM: An immediate focus is refreshing our web presence to be more vibrant and usable and more useful for our members now we increasingly live in a digital world. Happily, from the early days in the 1960s, we have a record of high-quality membership magazines and specialist publications.

We are also a sponsor of Hungary's national exhibition, Hunfilex, early in 2022, and that will be one of the largest events for many years celebrating Hungarian philately. We helped pioneer MIDPEX and are proud of our links with UK philately - not least other central European societies who share the political history. We share an annual meeting in Bradford.

This is an exciting time for the society. We wish to encourage collectors to see Hungary as philatelically fascinating and encourage them to join and share with our existing enthusiastic members.



Registered local rate 20f stationery postcard from the 1950 5-Year Plan series with the matching 4Ft high value adhesive for the same project still needing 2 x local rate 20f Buildings definitives of 1951 for rate to US in 1952.

Postal markings tell the difficulties that arose there when it needed forwarding in Florida and picked up an interesting New York cachet on the way. The stationery existed in several printing varieties so this card with the particular franking and intriguing postal markings tells a story that is classical postal history and probably not another like it.

Hungary's modern issues offer huge scope for finding unusual sent items.

from / respond to: **Andrew McGavin**Are You **THINKING** of **SELLING?**

This is How The Stamp Trade Works

Philatelic Expert Lets You into his Selling Secrets so you can benefit from a totally different (and New) Selling Experience

1 If you want to learn how the stamp trade works, please read on... When I was 15, I did. I wondered if there was some secret source of supply? So, I bought my 1st stamp mixture, (wholesale I thought), broke it into 50 smaller units, advertised it in Stamp Magazine 'Classifieds', and waited for the orders to roll in... I'm still waiting, 51 years later!...

~~Wrong Offer~~ ~~Wrong Price~~ ~~Wrong Place~~
(naive seller) ✓ = me but I was only 15 at the time!



ANDREW PROMOTING PHILATELY ON THE ALAN TITCHMARSH SHOW ITV

About The Author ▶ Andrew found his Father's stamps at the age of 10. A year later at Senior School he immediately joined the School Stamp Club. He 'specialised' in British, but soon was interested in Queen Victoria which he could not afford. The 2nd to last boy wearing short trousers in his school year; he religiously bought Post Office New Issues on Tuesdays with his pocket money. He soon found that his collecting / trading stamps as much as he enjoyed them. Aged 19, eschewing University he quickly found a philatelic career in London, leading to creating his own companies in stamps. Andrew has authored many internationally published Stamp 'Tips' articles, appearing on Local Radio and National TV, promoting Philately with Alan Titchmarsh. Andrew's area of expertise is unusual – in so far as his grounding in collecting and wide philatelic knowledge has given him a deep understanding of Philately. He has studied Philately for the past 51 years, in combination with Commerce and Marketing Expertise, enabling him to create synergies in 'lifetime' interlinked Stamp Selling Systems, selling unit-priced stamps through to handling collections & Rarities up to £700,000 each. Today Andrew is fortunate to be co-owner with his Wife, of Universal Philatelic Auctions (aka LUPA) – the Largest No Buyer's Premium Reducing-Estimate System Stamp Auction in the World, creating records selling stamps to 2,261 different bidders from 54 different countries "in his international auctions".

Andrew stopped collecting stamps aged 18 reasoning that his enjoyment of stamps would be in handling them and selling them... He loves working in stamps



2 Three years later, attending my first public stamp auctions I wondered how some bidders seemed to buy everything, paying the highest price? It didn't occur to me that they were probably Auction Bidding Agents, paid by absent (dealer) bidders to represent them. I wondered why two collectors sitting side by side muttered to each other "he's a dealer" as if that justified him paying the highest price...

...but did it really? What was the real reason? How could a Dealer pay a higher price than a Collector? It doesn't make sense, does it? Collectors are customers. Customers usually pay the highest price, unless... for a Collector, this was...

~~Wrong Presentation~~ ~~Wrong Place~~
therefore Wrong Price ✓

3 Fast-forward 48 years later to a British Empire collection, lot #1 in an International Stamp Auction – Estimated at £3,000, but we were the highest bidder at £21,000 – YES – some 7x higher. Including Buyer's Premium in the extraordinary sum of £4,788 we actually paid GBP£25,788= upon a £3,000 estimate... however, we broke it down into sets, singles, mini-collections etc. We made a profit. Some might say it found its price. Others may say:

~~Wrong Estimate~~ ~~Wrong Presentation~~
~~Wrong Structure~~ ~~Wrong Protection of Price~~ ✓

– Lucky for the seller that 2 well-heeled bidders saw the potential value that day or it could have been given away... the seller could easily have lost out couldn't he? or she?

So, by un-peeling the layers of obfuscation, hopefully we can all agree:

The Secret is Simple – it's ALL ABOUT: TIMING

Plus the 3 Philatelic 'P's –

Presentation ✓ Place ✓ and Price ✓

4 Understanding the problem... I always remember the car trade had their own little 'bible' – Glass's Guide. I've no idea, I've not even looked – in this internet-dominated world, it may even have disappeared. Well, there's an insider Stamp Trade publication for Stamp Dealers called "The Philatelic Exporter". There's nothing that special about it – and you won't learn much or find massively reduced prices by subscribing – BUT – it is a forum, a paper focal point, a last 'bastion' in this on-line transparent world that we inhabit... whereby dealers (and auctioneers) can try and communicate with each other. I publish my own articles there...

Recently I discussed the outcome of my 10 years' simple research, asking dealers and auctioneers 'what is your biggest problem?'

To a man, (why are we almost all men), they replied – "my biggest problem is stock, if I can get more of the right stock I can sell it easily"

Strange that, nobody ever asked me the same question back – because my answer would have been entirely different (and I don't treat it as a problem) – I seek to satisfy more collector clients than any other stamp auction

This is the reason why my company has such massive advertising. This is the reason why we spend up to 8% of turnover – up to £200,000 per annum in marketing costs. (Most dealers don't even sell £200K per annum).

5 Why is that? Because, as the world revolved the Stamp Market, imperceptibly Changed, and incrementally –Massively

So, although few will tell you this, it's clearly evident that the problem for most Sellers of Stamps today is no longer absent stock – but absent collectors in

the place they choose to sell their stamps in. Simply put, other Dealers, Auctions, Stamp Fairs have not invested in marketing to have a strong Customer-core. To be fair, this is not true of all – but it is true of most – so that our former competitor 'Apex' had 800 bidders in a recent auction. In my most recent 20,000+ lot UPA 77th Auction we had 1,793 different bidders from 49 different countries, 95% of whom were Collectors. Some other well-advertised auctions only have 200 bidders (a high percentage of whom are dealers – so that, essentially they are Dealer-dominated auctions) – so that when you sell through them – you're paying up to 18% (including VAT) seller's commission and the buyer is paying up to 25% and more in Buyer's Premium, credit card fees, on-line bidding fee, delivery and insurance etc... **AND all of that so that your stamps may be sold, wait for it – TO DEALERS (and some collectors),** but Dealers, that naturally must make a profit to survive...

6 Now, let's examine the cost implications – Example: Your stamp collection sells in public auction for £800. Upon a 25% buyer's premium, the dealer pays £1,000 and it could be more. He breaks it into £2,000+ selling price (much lower and he'll go out of business). The auction charges you a seller's commission of up to 18% (VAT included) upon the £800 sale price. This is GBP£144. Therefore you receive approaching £656 – which is approximately 33% of the dealer's £2,000+/- retail selling price - **BUT...** now that we have identified the problem...

Isn't the Solution Staring us Right in The Face ?

7 Why Pay an Auction to Sell to Dealers: Sell to Collectors instead? In our example with buyer's premium, sellers commission, lotting fees, extra credit card charges, VAT and even insurance - you're already being charged in different ways up to 40% of the selling price to sell, possibly or probably, **to the wrong person.**

Why not direct that 40% cost you're paying to sell to Collectors instead? Sounds good, so why hasn't this been done before ?

8 Truth is, it has been done before... Sometimes the 'old' ways are the best ways aren't they? But in today's enthusiasm to obscure the



Contact UPA: 01451 861 111

UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIAL:

Dear Folk at UPA,

I've dealt with the public for 37 + years, and as both a consumer, and a businessman, I have created huge numbers of orders from all over the world from a complete range of suppliers from all aspects of our daily lives.

But I don't believe I have ever encountered such sensitivity, such kind thought, such understanding as I have with you in our initial meeting, our subsequent successful transaction, and now this.

I recall well the item you highlight, and realise that this one item has such colossal personal value, I could never part with it. It has been an absolute pleasure dealing with yourself, and I am more than willing for you to use this e-mail as commendation to others who may be thinking of disposing of their collection.

Many, many thanks for a memorable experience, and I will try to emulate your thought and care in my own business sphere.

Yours sincerely
D. E. B. Bath, UK

obvious so that money may be taken, almost surreptitiously, in numerous different ways, (without us apparently noticing until we see the cheque in our pocket) – the transparent 'seller pays' has been deliberately 'obscured' – so much so that, **amazingly,** the latest 2017 European Auction Selling Legislation just introduced – now requires auctions that charge 'buyer's premiums' **to warn the buyer in advance.** Just imagine going into the petrol station, and being warned that the price you're paying to put fuel in your tank is not the real price, you have to pay a premium! Obviously, there would be an uproar...

9 How can you cut out the middleman and sell to Collectors instead? Well, I can think of two ways. 1). **DIY** - Do It Yourself selling on eBay. That may be fine for lower grade material – but, would you risk auctioning relatively unprotected rare material on eBay ? We don't and we're professionals, so we should know what we're doing. Or 2). **Cut out the extra middle-man. Use my company UPA, which reaches collectors instead.** Here's how it works: Continuing from our previous **Example:**

The auction sold your stamps to a dealer for £1,000 – but You received circa £656

UPA sells them to collectors for you for up to £2,000 – even after 40% commission you receive up to £1,200. Up to £544 more. Now that's amazing, isn't it?

10 Sounds Good Andrew, but Can You 'Deliver'? Obviously, nothing is as simple as that, and as we auction stamps to collectors some collections may 'break' to the example £2,000+/- but the stamps may be sold for more or less – especially as we reserve all lots at 20% below, (Estimate £2,000 = £1,600 reserve) and not everything sells first or even 2nd time so prices may come down... Naturally, it's not that straightforward for a dealer either – he may sell at a discount to 'move' stock **OR,** like many dealers he may be sitting on the same unsold stamps, that you see time and time again, in dealer's stocks years later and still at the same unattractive prices... So, I think it is more reasonable for you to expect up to 36% to 50% more, indirectly or directly via my **Collector's Secret Weapon:** Universal Philatelic Auctions, which moves material more quickly, by incrementally reducing estimate (and reserve) price in a structured selling system...

Request Your Next FREE Catalogue NOW



UNIVERSAL PHILATELIC AUCTIONS ABPS


4 The Old Coalyard, West End, Northleach, Glos. GL54 3HE UK

Tel: 01451 861111 • Fax: 01451 861297




11 Q.) What is the Collector's 'Secret Weapon'?

A.) It's called the Unique UPA Reducing Estimate System...

This is a rather long explanation, I don't want to bore you, but 20 years ago, when my wife and I set up Universal Philatelic Auctions I detected that the stamp trade's biggest problem then was not what sold – *but what didn't sell...* So, because I didn't want to try to keep on offering the same either unsaleable or overpriced stock I created the unique UPA Reducing Estimate (and reserve) Selling System. Simply put, if a lot doesn't sell in the 1st auction we reduce the estimate (and reserve) by 11% and unlike other dealers and auctions **WE TELL YOU** – 'US' = once unsold. If unsold after the following auction we **reduce by a further 12%** and **WE TELL YOU 'US2'**, if unsold after a 3rd UPA auction we reduce by a further 13% and **WE TELL YOU 'US3'** and so on till the lot finds its price, is sold or virtually given away... 


12 Any Scientist will tell you

that combinations of ingredients can produce powerful results. So we created the unique combination of my UPA Reducing Estimate System, married (in stone), with UPA's fair 'NO BUYER'S Premium' policy, PLUS each lot carries my total 'no quibble' guarantee – this formula is the reason why in the span of 4 auctions (one year)... 90%-95% of lots broken from a collection have sold. This Unique Philatelic Selling System **Formula** is the reason why we are the largest stamp auction in the UK today with more than 2,250 different regular bidders. 

In Hindsight Dealers warned me 20 years ago that my idea wouldn't work. 20 years later I think I've proven that it does. (Reader: Please Request a complimentary UPA catalogue – using the contact details further below)


13 OK, Cut to the Chase Andrew, what's the offer?

All of my Selling Systems are based upon **selling to Collectors Globally**, so that 95% of stamps sold by UPA are sold directly to Collectors. If you wish to benefit by up to 50% or more, depending upon


your circumstance and type of material, by cutting out the middleman – then this offer may be for you. Generally 'time' is the enemy in our lives, and for most dealers not being able to sell stock. Now is the time to let 'time' do the 'heavy-lifting' and consider making 'time' work for you, so that at UPA you can make time your friend. 

14 AND the SMALL PRINT?

Some lots are too small in value for us to offer this system. Other lots may not be suited to selling in this manner (e.g surplus mint British decimal stamps best used for postage) – especially if the market is heavily compromised by stock overhang in specific areas. Some Collectors will not wish to use time and systems to leverage price, others will want to agree a specific price and know that they are paid precisely this amount. No client is treated like a square peg into a round hole. 

- ## 15 OK, What Do I Do Next?
- You contact UPA to discuss with Andrew or a highly-qualified Auction Valuer/Describer what you have to dispose of and your options bearing in mind your specific interests / requirements.
 - If you wish, get a 2nd opinion, but investigate what type of auction / dealer you are dealing with. Is it a Dealer's auction with relatively few collectors? Can you see where / how the Dealer sells? If you can't easily see any pricelists or high quality selling catalogues – that Dealer may sell your stamps to other dealers...
 - Finally you ask U P A to collect your stamps, insure in transit for an estimated replacement retail value... 


16 What Happens then?

A member of my Team telephones/e-mails you to confirm safe receipt. 'Overnight' valuations, unless simple, are rare. Valuing stamp collections that have taken tens of years to create takes time. Depending upon your priorities / timescale I, or an experienced member of my Team will contact you to discuss your requirements and the options available to you for the sale of your collection. Provided only that you feel well-informed and comfortable do we agree strategy 


17 How Strong is the Stamp and Cover Market?

Everybody knows that the strongest areas are GB and British Empire. Post-Independence / QEII material sells but if hinged at considerable discount. Mint hinged material pre 1952 is regarded as the industry 'norm' and therefore desirable – but genuine never-hinged commands a premium. Europe sells but at reduced levels, Americas is good, as generally is Asia but the 'heat' has come off China which is still good – and Russia which can still be good. East Europe is weaker. Overall, Rarities throughout can command their own price levels and real Postal History has good demand.


18 What Should I Do Next?

Discuss your collection with U P A. Contact Andrew or an experienced member of his Team now... 


19 Guarantee: I want You to be absolutely Sure

So If You're not sure we'll transport and return your stamps for FREE up to £200 in actual shipping cost at our expense. It sounds generous (and it is), but it's far less than the cost of driving 100+ miles each way and 3 to 6 hours in your home valuing your stamps 

20 My Double Cast Iron Guarantee:

We can do a better job valuing your stamps in our office than in your home. If you don't agree I'll pay you an extra £50 for you to pay somebody trusted to open the boxes and put your albums back, in the same place, on the shelf they came from. 

21 Act NOW: Contact Andrew

or an experienced member of his Team using the on-line selling form at our website, by fax, telephone or by mail. We'll work harder for you not to regret the decision to sell all or part of your collection... 



Andrew McGavin, Philatelic Expert,
Author: Managing Director,
Universal Philatelic Auctions UPA

UNIVERSAL PHILATELIC AUCTIONS ABPS

4 The Old Coalyard, West End, Northleach, Glos. GL54 3HE UK

Tel: 01451 861111 • Fax: 01451 861297

www.upastampauctions.co.uk • info@upastampauctions.co.uk



The Collectors' Secret Weapon

Discover the UPA reducing-estimate system ...

... Look for the **'US'**? (Unsold lots)

Join 2,000+ regular bidders, 95% Collectors from 54 different countries who have discovered the Collectors' Secret Weapon – No Buyer's Premium, ALL Lots Guaranteed, Loyalty insured Airmail Post-Free delivery Auctions, **PLUS ... your 1st £55 value lots are on me ...**

Collectors – New to my UPA auctions?

Let me tell you an open secret ... with up to 19,000+ world-wide lots in each auction, unsurprisingly ...

Not everything sells 1st or even 2nd time offered

This is your chance to turn this to your advantage ... in 'archaic' philately, it is high time for a refreshing change, isn't it?

If you are tired of unrealistic Dealer's selling prices, don't be any longer, because unlike the rest of the stamp trade, each time an auction lot is **UNSOLD** – we reduce the estimate (and reserve), and furthermore ... we inform you!

Instead of typical trade 'cover-ups' (altering descriptions, repeated same estimates and reserves) ... here is how my 20-year time-proven unique UPA reducing-estimate and reserve system works, allowing lots to find their own value, and you to find extraordinary value, even bargains:

When you see ...

'US' after a description – **'US'** indicates the number of times that a lot has been **UNSOLD**, and how many times the lot has been reduced in price by initially **11%(US)**, a further **12%(US2)**, a further **13%(US3)** etc.

Yes, each time a lot is unsold the reduction is 'ramped'...

... and because reserve is always 80% of estimate ... a US4 lot will start at ... as little as 46% of 1st time estimate...

This is the reason why some collectors do not even bother to bid in our auction! ...

They simply wait to buy unsold lots at reserve !!


So ... looking for the 'US' makes sense, doesn't it

... and you can join them. If you would like to spend some philatelic time, looking for the 'US' (Unsold lots) ...

... and because most clients support UPA by bidding in future auctions, I'm making this easy for new clients like you to get started –

Dedicated to De-mystifying Philately




Andrew McGavin,
Author, Managing Director
Universal Philatelic Auctions
(UPA)

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www.upastampauctions.co.uk

Apply now in any way today. Go to coupon below



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Waiting to Fill the Gaps

For 10 years I've been filling the spaces in my USA collection. Four gaps emerged - the \$1, \$3, \$4 and \$5 values from the 1893 Columbian Exposition issue. In **May 2020**, I bid successfully in an American auction for these two stamps.



They had not arrived after 1 month. I emailed the auctioneer who replied suggesting I shouldn't worry. After another month, I emailed again and he replied that the customs men would be studying the stamps!

The stamps hadn't arrived after a further three months. In November 2020, I was refunded the \$400 paid. The auctioneer then told me that because of items being "lost", he *"would not be accepting bids from any UK bidders in future"*.

One year after bidding the following landed on our hall doormat.

After mounting the contents, I emailed the auctioneer, telling him the stamps had arrived. I then repaid him the \$400.

He replied *That is amazing! I just received your payment on the wayward shipment. I cannot thank you enough for the payment. It's amazing that the shipment took a year to get to you! You are a fair and honest gentleman. All the best.*

CN22 - CUSTOMS DECLARATION															
Origin Post: US Postal Service	Date of Mailing: 05/13/2020	U.S. POSTAGE REQUIRED APPLY U.S. POSTAGE HERE													
Category of Item: DOCUMENTS	TO: THOMAS SMITH														
RES/ITN Exemptions: 30.37a	Detailed description of contents: Business papers														
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TOTAL															



CN22 - CUSTOMS DECLARATION	
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RES/ITN Exemptions: 30.37a	
Detailed description of contents: Business papers	

to receive the payment. I too was pleased. I had received the two stamps and a compliment!

Two gaps remain – the \$4 and \$5. I doubt if these two gaps will ever be filled.

Richard Smith

Two Book Reviews by Ken Sandford

AUSTRALIAN AIRMAILS ACROSS THE PACIFIC OCEAN 1937-1951



Australian Airmails Across the Pacific Ocean, 1937 – 1951, by Laurence Kimpton

Published May 2021. 140 pages, over 220 illustrations (almost all in colour), A4, laminated card cover. Price: UK£20

Order from Laurence Kimpton
I.j.kimpton@blueyonder.co.uk

20, Greytree Crescent, Dorridge, Solihull. B93 8SL, United Kingdom
Postage within UK: £3.50 (1st class). Postage to outside UK (below cost): Europe £6.50, Australia & New Zealand £12, USA £11, Rest of World £10.

Payment by bank transfer, £ Sterling cheque or by PayPal (outside UK only).

Over the past 35 years or so there has been increased interest in the airmails of the Second World War, encouraged by the research of various aerophilatelists and postal historians. About 20 years ago Bill Legg, member of The British

Society of Australian Philately (BSAP) and the British Air Mail Society, acquired copies of various *Tables of Air Mail Charges*, *Air Mail Schedules* and *Air Mail Notices* of the Australian Post Office dating from 1939 to 1945. It then became possible to work out air mail rates on covers flown across the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, often with high frankings. This led the author to write articles for the BSAP's *Bulletin* (in 2006) and the British Air Mail Society's journal *Air Mail News* (in 2016 and 2017) on Australian airmails across the Pacific Ocean to North America and Europe between 1937 and 1945.

This book is a revised and considerably expanded version of the articles in *Air Mail News*, with much additional information and many more illustrations. Much more consideration is given to incoming mail and mail in transit through Australia. Content also includes mail which was sent across the Pacific to USA or Canada by ship and then forwarded by air to Europe. Also, the subject has been extended to consider mail carried on survey and other special flights, American forces mail and the restoration and development of trans-Pacific services from Australia in the immediate post war period.

Besides the Australian Post Office's tables and notices, for mail to and from the United Kingdom, the GPO's *Overseas Mail Branch's Weekly Reports* and the Air Ministry's *Civil Aviation Intelligence Reports Summaries* (compiled by Peter Wingent) were very useful sources. Research on New Zealand airmails, particularly by Robin Startup (author of *Airmails of New Zealand, Volume 3, International Airmails 1940-1970*) and by Robert Clark (compiler of the website www.nzstamps.org.uk) has also provided much information relevant to Australian airmails. A variety of aerophilatelic and aviation history books have also been of help in producing this book, especially in providing details of survey and other special flights.

The covers are in full color and are very good quality. There are a number of maps, charts and airline timetables, which are very useful. There are also seldom-seen photos of some of the aircraft involved.

The various chapters after an introduction are:

Chapter 1 Airmail via PAA's North Pacific Service (FAM 14) from Hong Kong to San Francisco, 1937-1941

Chapter 2 Airmail via PAA's South Pacific Service (FAM 19) from Auckland to San Francisco, 1938-1941

Chapter 3 Mail by Sea across the Pacific with Onward Air Transport, 1942-1945

Chapter 4 Survey Flights, Special Flights and Mail via Trans-Pacific Military Services, 1939-1945

Chapter 5. Restoration and Development of Trans-Pacific Services, 1945-1951 and five appendices and an index:

Appendix 1 Australian Trans-Pacific / Trans-Atlantic Airmail Rates

Appendix 2 Locations of US Army and Navy Post Offices in Australia

Appendix 3 The Flying Boats of Pan American Airways

Appendix 4 The Airliners of British Commonwealth Pacific Airlines

Appendix 5 British Commonwealth Pacific Airlines Timetables

The book is very well written and will be essential for collectors of trans-Pacific airmails for the period covered.

AUSTRALASIAN CRASH MAIL AND MAIL FROM OTHER INCIDENTS, VOLUME THREE, 1936-1939 by Brian R. Peace

This book covers all crashes and incidents where mail was involved; but it is much more than that. The author has been thorough in setting a context; not simply explaining the distinction between an accident and an incident. The detailed descriptions of each incident provide much more information than has been published previously. The book is effectively a comprehensive demonstration of the challenges and hazards facing pilots and the growing airline industry, from a social and historical, as well as a philatelic, perspective.

The tables at the end of each of the first four chapters are useful, in that it is a relatively simple task to check airmail covers to establish if they were involved in an accident or incident.

The inclusion in tables of the amount of mail carried, and the recorded or estimated numbers of surviving covers, will be invaluable for auction houses and dealers as well as collectors. Whilst some collectors would prefer to see values, auction realisations or scarcity ratings included, the author has deliberately avoided their inclusion.

A detailed census has been prepared for all major accidents, particularly those of the Empire flying boats. It must be stressed that each of these is a preliminary census and must be treated as a work in progress.

The author estimates that at least as many covers have not been recorded as appear in the censuses for the major flying boat incidents. For example, in the case of 381127 *Calpurnia*, over 200 covers are recorded, yet over 500 probably exist. One of the main reasons for this disparity is that, until fairly recently, images of covers from flying boat incidents were not included in auction catalogues.

Whilst the chapter on New Zealand internal emails is short, most of the major flying boat incidents involved NZ mail, and covers are listed in the censuses with examples being illustrated in the text.

The extensive list of references points to this study being not only thorough, but wide-ranging. There are several serious, even fatal, crashes of mail-carrying aircraft in Australia which have remained unrecorded in philatelic literature. The possibility of new crash covers emerging is an incentive for aerophilatelists and dealers to re-examine their airmail covers from this period.

At 380 pages, the book is the culmination of decades of research and writings. The author first wrote on the subject 59 years ago, and is the acknowledged authority on the subject. It may be that the readership will turn out to be wider than the aerophilatelists and dealers mentioned in the introduction. Some of the stories of the inter-continental flights are gripping, and one may wonder why some of these feats have remained largely unacknowledged.

The covers and cachets are in colour and the quality of the scans is excellent. The post-paid price is UK£50 in the UK, EUR65 to Europe, US\$100 to the USA and AU\$150 to Australia. Payment online in UK£ to Sort 05-00-40, Account 10082204, or in AU\$ to BSB 063000, Account 12391146 or by PayPal to brpeace@ntlworld.com adding 4%. UK£ cheque accepted if only option.

Australasian Crash Mail and Mail from Other Incidents

Volume Three: 1936-1939



Brian R Peace FRPSL



Are you willing to support ABPS as we support British Philatelists?



The last 15 months have taught us to adapt to changing circumstances. For many learning the new skills of video meetings has meant that we have been able to still meet our friends and keep in touch with our hobby. In fact it has opened up new opportunities to have contact with philatelists that would not have been possible in our 'normal' world.

As we are starting to consider a return to real meetings the Committee at ABPS is actively looking at ways where we might incorporate the new technologies with the traditional activities and so increase the participation by our members in their hobby. As part of this procedure from January 2022 we are updating the benefits to philatelists who wish to support us with their patronage:

BENEFITS to GOLD PATRONS:

- ◆ Entry on the Patrons' page on the ABPS website
- ◆ The right to wear an exclusive "ABPS" Lapel Badge
- ◆ Entry on the dedicated Patrons' page in the ABPS News
- ◆ A complimentary electronic copy of the ABPS News (or a printed copy if required)
- ◆ A one page article, once a year, in ABPS NEWS to talk about their collection.

In return for these benefits ABPS would ask that you support us financially with a minimum donation of £50 per annum. To learn more on how to enter this partnership with us please contact me direct.

Steve Harrison, Chairman (Elect), vicechair@abps.org.uk



Face-to-face once again

The wait will soon be over for those who want to be able to browse through an unrivalled array of material and chat to dealers from around the world, when London 2022 opens its doors. The international stamp exhibition will take place on 19th to 26th February next year at the Business Design Centre in Islington in London (nearest Underground Station: Angel).

With around 125 booth holders expected, visitors will be greeted by stamp dealers, auctioneers, publishers and postal administrations. Whatever your field of interest, whether it be stamps or postal history, thematic or Cinderellas, stationery or revenues, all collectors are certain to find something of interest. Items that make your collection special, plus literature and accessories, will all be on offer.

Visit london2022.co and search under 'Bourse' for details of the booth holders who have already booked.

Understandably, events during the past months have meant some of the original booth holders have had to withdraw. There are a few booths still available, shown in red on the floor plan. These include some very attractive sites on the Village Green and on the Mezzanine level, and a few Gallery Bays. Clicking on the 'red' booths provides full details, while another click allows vacant booths to be booked.

Your article?

We are always pleased to consider articles by our readers. Please send your item to the Editor who will let you know if it can be used. 350 words maximum please, and a picture relating to the subject matter is always a help (300dpi jpg or photograph). We do not pay for publication, and any items may be edited for length or content.

Visiting London 2022

Special arrangements have been made for those visiting London 2022, the international stamp exhibition that will take place on 19th to 26th February next year at the Business Design Centre in Islington in London (nearest Underground Station: Angel).

Visit london2022.co and click on 'Visits/Hotels' to find details of the special arrangements that have been made with HotelSmart to secure the best deals at convenient hotels.

By simply clicking for more information, you will be provided with details of selected hotels, plus the opportunity to make further enquiries. HotelSmart can also be found at hotelsmart.co.uk or contacted by telephone on +44(0)1202 533363.

Those who used HotelSmart to make a booking for London 2020 should have had their original booking cancelled, and a fresh booking will need to be made. Please check with HotelSmart for more information.

All the latest news about London 2022 can be found at london2022.co

HELVETIA 2022

The first Swiss international exhibition for more than fifty years will be held in beautiful Lugano next to its eponymous lake in the Canton of Ticino. This is a specialised world stamp exhibition, with FIP patronage and FEPA recognition, organized by the Swiss Federation of Philatelic Societies in cooperation with the Philatelic Society of Lugano.

It will be held at Padiglione Conza, Lugano's fairground and convention centre, which has space for approximately 2000 exhibition frames. The competition classes will be: World Stamp Championship, Traditional, Postal History, Postal Stationery, Aerophilately, Thematic, Literature, One Frame.

The AIJP (Association Internationale des Journalistes Philatéliques) and AEP (Académie Européenne de Philatélie) have also granted patronage to HELVETIA 2022.

Fine wines, good food, a stunning setting, and just over an hour by train from Milan, makes it well worth a short break to include the exhibition.

For entry forms and IREX see www.helvetia2022.ch/en/irex-and-application
Entry forms to UK Commissioner: Chris King chris.king@postalhistory.net

Closing Date is 7th October 2021 - Qualifying entries from Autumn Stampex 29th September - 2nd October will be eligible.

**No report of your society? Why not send one to the editor?
It could get you new members, and also gives hints on good
speakers to other societies.**

1951 'A Tonic to the Nation'

On 4th February 1949, the Post Office Board examined the option of issuing a stamp or stamps as follows: A pictorial commemorative, suggested by the Council of Industrial Design (CofID) 1947.

In April a 6d air letter to coincide with the planned 1951 festival was proposed. An alternative suggestion was to print designs of the special stamps on the air letter, however difficulties with new machinery cancelled this plan.

Letters of invitation with instructions were issued to 12 individual artists on 18th June. On 20th June this invitation was extended to stamp printing houses.

Design Selection

On 10th October, **Lady Sempill**, **Harry Carter** and **Gerald Barry** assessed the designs of the new high value and the festival commemoratives.

The best four designs were:

1. Dulac 's theme of 'commerce and prosperity'
2. Reinganum - Crystal Palace to centre, encircled with ribbons
3. Reinganum - Crystal Palace to background
4. Bellow - Festival symbol centre and Crystal Palace to left



Fig 1. 1951 Festival of Britain. Great Exhibition, bromide 1st October 1949, unaccepted design 10th October 1949.

Issued by Waterlow staff artist L P Fryer (Stanley Gibbons)

Fig 2. 1951 Festival of Britain, 1st

October 1949, unaccepted design submitted at the first selection meeting 10th October 1949, by Harrison and Sons, Ltd. by H M McLaren.
(Postal Museum Archives)

At a meeting on 7th December 1949, the CofID preferred Dulac's design for the 2½d, Reinganum design for the 3d, Bellow's design was dropped and replaced by Games' design, also the wording Great Exhibition was replaced by Festival of Britain.



Fig 3. Harrison and Sons, Ltd. Presentation card of issued stamps, DOI 3rd May 1951. 2½d Commerce and Prosperity and 4d Festival Symbol.



Fig 4. 5 dot listed flaws: deformed 2 on left of 2½d in block.



Fig 5. Detail of deformed 2 to 2½d, R20/2.

Minor constant varieties: Break in helmet plume, Spot on staff between wings, Small crescent with staff/wings.

The Public's Reaction

Collectors' reactions to the stamps were mixed.

'Neither design provides the slightest inspiration' - *Gibbons Stamp Monthly*, 1st June 1950;

'A fine cheerful pair' *Stamp Collecting*, 11th May 1951; *Stamp Mirror*, 12th May 1951, found the 4d 'Clean and uncluttered' and *Stamp Mirror*, 2½d, 'Britannia and the King.... facing each other coldly across a batch of liquorice allsorts' *Carlo Consolante (Bedford)*

References: *The Postal Museum, Post Office Archive files, Post 52/1006. P413/63. Text written and illustrated by author*

Illustrations: (Fig 1) Stanley Gibbons.

(Fig 2) Postal Museum Archives.

All other Illustrations are the property of the author.



Fig 6. Festival of Britain, Commemorative cover from the festival pleasure gardens, Stamp Shop. Battersea, one of the festival venues, CDS. Battersea 3rd May 1951 SW11.

On the Club circuit

A roundup of events and speakers at local and national societies.

Please send your reports direct to **the Editor**. We cannot undertake to include every report sent to us, and reserve the right to edit the reports we receive in the interests of space; short reports are best please. Contact details for the societies are on the ABPS website. **Visitors are welcome** at all societies listed. *When submitting photos please ensure that any people shown (especially children) have agreed to their photo appearing in this national newsletter (Data Protection and all that...).* "→" Indicates contact information.

Federations

Cornwall

On Saturday 22nd May ten postcard and stamp dealers attended the Wesley Chapel Rooms, Redruth for REDEX. This was the first Stamp Fair to be held in Cornwall since Launceston club's fair in March 2019. Thanks to **Mike Whyte** of Redruth Stamp & Postcard Club for organising the event on behalf of Cornwall Philatelic Federation. It was conducted under strict Covid restrictions as



*Mike Whyte, Chairman,
Secretary, Programme
Secretary and Federation
Representative of Redruth,
at his stand*



*Neil Sargent (left) and David Lethbridge take a
break from their tables for a photo call - Neil
chairman of the CPF and David vice-chairman*

required by the Chapel management. Attendance was down on "normal" years

but CPF Chairman **Neil Sargent** commented that there were more visitors than he expected. Other dealers attending - **Peter Eagles, Rex Eccott, Graham**

Eva, Chris Hockaday, Jim Fisher, Tony Lucas and Kevin Webb. We hope that the fairs at St. Eval (NEWQUEX 7th August) and CORNEX Pensilva, near Liskeard (30th October) will go ahead as planned. *Des Kent*

Hampshire

We are still very active, and planning for HAMPEX on the 25th September is well under way with 20+ dealers attending. The federation has a membership of 17 Clubs and Societies and we are trying to help our members with a ZOOM meeting to discuss what we can do to help our members and get meetings back on the road. Our members are active in holding ZOOM meetings with up to 40 people attending meetings, and producing newsletters for members. Meetings are planned by many members up until December with speakers, events and much more. It will be a struggle for some clubs and societies but I am sure we will all get there in the end. *Steve Gerrard*

MIDPEX 2021 HAILED A SUCCESS



MIDPEX 2021 Warwickshire Event Centre, Leamington Spa, CV31 1XN 3rd July 2021

The prospects for this year's MIDPEX, sponsored by Cavendish Philatelic Auctions Ltd, looked gloomy in a week in which the York Stamp Fair was cancelled. However, the event went ahead much to the relief of the organisers from the Midland Philatelic Federation, venue, dealers and societies. Collectors seemed pleased to have the opportunity to socialise again.

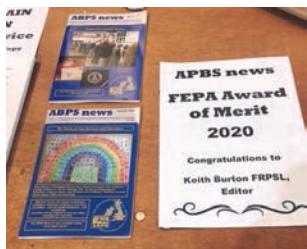
Sixty dealers and forty specialist societies took part in the event, a lower than usual number, due to reservations by some over attending due to the Covid pandemic, which also allowed for greater social distancing. The other measures that had been put in place such as the wearing of masks, compulsory registration and provision of sanitisers etc gave visitors great reassurance. It was a relief to everyone in its organisation to see a queue extending out to the car park when the event opened on the 3rd July at 10am.



Chairman of the organising Committee, **Clive Jones**, said “Although attendance was a little down on previous Midpex events, it was a day of great happiness, allowing us to mix again with our friends, albeit with health constraints imposed on the event. I think we can all be pleased with the outcome. From the feedback received, we can all be proud of what we have



achieved in putting on a great philatelic event, in a safe environment. We had excellent support from the venue and from all the Committee in all aspects of the detail needed to put on Midpex in 2021.”



Peter Cockburn, President Elect of the RPSL, wrote on Twitter “Great day out at Midpex! Best of British philately back in business with very many specialist societies and huge efforts by so many. Thanks to all organisers, society officials and visitors for making a

perfect day reuniting friends from every quarter of the compass!”

Frank Walton wrote on Facebook “It was a joy to see so many friendly faces yesterday. I certainly enjoyed my day out immensely – and all of the dealers I spoke to also seemed to have smiles on their faces commercially. Thank you for all of the efforts you made, and especially thanks to you for going the extra mile.” Midpex will next be held at the venue on 1st July 2023.

Steve Harrison Chairman of MPF

HAMPEX 2021

Hampshire Philatelic Federation

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Entrance by programme: £1

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HPF Website www.hantsfederation.org.uk/hpfhpx.htm

COVID-19: The then current Government guidelines will apply to provide the safest environment possible for visitors and dealers

Local Societies

Amersham and District

Our circulating packets are producing a lively level of sales and are continuing to attract new vendors from outside our area. The older Commonwealth material sells well. Our packet secretary is **Dave Bird**, whose email address is amershamdps.pcktsec@gmail.com A fairly small postal auction of 87 lots proved a success, the main vendor being happy with the level of sales. We are planning to hold our first auction meeting on 7th October in the Old Barn Hall. Our Auction Secretary **Les Gwilliam** is currently accepting lots from members. For further details see the auction page on our website stampersham.org.uk Our Autumn programme is scheduled to commence on Thursday 16th September followed by the first auction three weeks later. Meetings will then follow fortnightly for the remainder of the year apart from the festive season. Regular updates can be found in the programme page of our website. Our Annual General Meeting for 2020/21 which was virtual again this year was held on 17th June. All four voting proposals received unanimous support and the existing committee was returned unopposed. Jim Drummond

Bromley & Beckenham

We had two Zoom meetings in May. For the first **David Rennie** prepared a PowerPoint display of *King GVI covers* from Aden to Morocco. One special item was a 5/10d parcel label, used in 1947 under the scheme for the public to send food parcels from Australia to UK. The second meeting was our AGM at which **Andrew Harris** became our new president. In the reports it was noted that the total amount, raised by **Norman and Janet Harris**, for **Guide Dogs** was now over £9600, which was greeted with spontaneous applause from the meeting. In June we held our annual *Postcard* evening. **David Rennie** showed the *Grahame Boutle Postmen*, a collection of 40 cards including deliveries, hazards, waiting for letters, rushing to post, comic and romantic. **Graeme Ashdown** displayed *Balloon postcards for the New Zealand flights* sponsored by the Bernina Sewing Machine Co of Stechburn, Switzerland in aid of its charity. The first flight from Lower Hut ended in failure when the balloon burst. **Adrian Thomas'** presentation of *Best wishes and love from Edith and Fred: Postcards to Cousin Emmie* was a family affair from his grandparents to his great-aunt. **Nick Hervey** showed a range of *German submarines and "ace" commanders*. **David Rennie** finished with photos of the *Derek Marchant Collection of Stamp Cases & Boxes, Inkwells, and Scales etc*. The scales included postal rate information, balance and spring types for use on the desk or whilst travelling. David Rennie

Cambridge

Our meetings continue to be held on the first Wednesday and third Friday monthly, which all take place via Zoom Conferencing. It is expected that Zoom evening meetings will continue until at least the end of August 2021. We still await confirmation from our usual venue as to when they will re-open for face-to-

face meetings. Our Annual General Meeting was held via Zoom on 18th June, ahead of the usual third Friday meeting. Officers and curators were duly re-elected, along with the committee, apart from one member who was standing down. Recent evening meeting highlights have included four members from Leighton Buzzard PS giving very varied displays and also the Cambridge PS president **Simon Kelly** showing many items covering *The Cambridge PS, the first one hundred years*. We celebrated our centenary in October 2020. Though a number of events connected with the centenary celebrations had to be cancelled, or deferred, because of the Covid-19 pandemic, we hope that a belated centenary lunch can be held in Cambridge at the end of October 2021.

→ info@cambridgephilatelicsociety.co.uk

Peter Morton

Dawlish

Our well-attended ZOOM meeting in May was given many clues by **Peter Halmkin** of how to identify the plates used to print 1d Blacks, 1d Reds and 2d Blues. Then **Bill Lusty** showed his *French Mail during WWII* including Prisoner of War mail and how the Germans censored mail both into and out of France and the differences between mail to Switzerland and mail between Occupied and Vichy France. Some members of Dawlish Club also attended a ZOOM meeting by West of England Thematic Society when local member **Vicki**



Wigmore showed knowledge of *Philately and Owls*, with an eagle owl as the star of the show. At our next meeting we heard two guest speakers. **Terry Cowlard** talked about the *Kariba Dam in Africa* giving a philatelic insight into its building based around personal knowledge and how this affected the area. One problem identified is that now the dam is undermined by the force from the falling water and works

are necessary in the river bed below the dam to correct this situation. The second speaker was **Sharon Durtkas** from America who gave an insight into *Mail carried by Dog Sled in Alaska*. The Alaska Dog Sled Mail is now remembered by an Annual Race across Alaska from Anchorage to Nome a distance of 1000 miles, called the IDITAROD. The Musers, who are timed, formerly were required to carry mail. Typical times are 21 days 6 hours.

→ www.dawlishsc.org

Jim Wigmore

Halifax

News from behind the mask. The 2020-2021 season continues with successful online meetings. There has been a welcome exchange of Zoom access details between societies allowing these exchanges to happen. Displays here included **Jamie Smith** and **Adel Bulpit** showing *Flowers*. These were all GB stamps on

cover showing correct postal rates. **Bill Tait** showed *Early Postal History of Ilkley*. His first item was a letter dated 27th May 1858 from Doncaster to Otley relating to a "prescription" for Pepsin Pills from Henry Turner, Piccadilly, Manchester. Bill showed further mail (8d orange) cancelled 664, allocated to Ilkley from 1st May 1876. This provoked a discussion on the number of experimental cancellations of the period. **Owen Heathcote** brought *British Commonwealth Occupation Force in Japan 1946-52*, which comprised troops from Australia, New Zealand, India and GB supporting the USA occupation of Japan. He showed a series of covers cancelled FPO 148 and FPO 112 Matsue & Yonga dated 15.8.1947 with India "independence day" cachet. Mail was flown by RAAF and the Australian cancellation used where the mail entered the civil post system for onward transmission. **Mike Roberts** (Huddersfield) displayed the 1961 decimalisation of Pakistan post office. They were ill-prepared for the event resulting in the overprinted issues. Mike showed examples of genuine and forged overprints with examples on cover. Mike also showed commercial use of the issue on parcel pieces which resulted in a discussion among members. Meetings appear to be thriving. Adrian Lee

Harrogate

Our Zoom meetings have grown steadily. We went through to the '80s for our members' evening. We visited *Spain* and *Korea* with **Edith and Rodney Knight** and then continued to Poland to see *Solidarity material* from **Maria Gibson**. **Robert and Daphne MacMillan** took us to *Islas Malvinas* and then returned us to GB for *Queen Mary's correspondence envelopes* – a fascinating rescue job. **Bill Tait** looked at the *1d Lilac of GB* before **Keith Burton** finished with a single item of *GB Registered mail going to Passau Bavaria in 1889* combining two of his collecting interests. A fortnight later Southampton PS visited us – an unlikely visit without Zoom. **Mike Torreggiani** opened with the *Postal War between East & West Germany*. We stayed in Europe for **Brian Hague's Mail to and from a Danish dentist in the Faroe Islands during WWII**. **Mike Vokes** visited lots of *Lighthouses* and we returned to WWII with **Alan Whittaker** showing *The Red Cross Civilian Postal Message Scheme with the Channel Islands during the Occupation 1940-1945*. The 90s resulted in 10 displays from the usuals but also **Peter Chadwick** sent a 1795 item of which there are only 3 in the world, **Yvonne Wheatley** produced *Railways in the 1890s* and **Gary Green** (Devon) showed *Leipzig Messe Luftpost*. Finally for the time being we Zoomed to the "Noughties". **Andres Riedl** (Nuremberg) showed a *Nuremberg Postcard*, **Richard Wheatley** took us to *The Dutch East Indies* and **Peter Rix** had the 1st *Airmail letter of 1808*. Keith Burton

Hereford & Mid-Wales

Continuing our virtual meetings, in April, members were asked to show items related to *Transport*. This produced an amazing array of material from Rocket Mail to railways, bicycles, motorcycles, balloons, early aircraft, and even a fork-lift truck, plus mail carried by punt, canal barge, hovercraft and hydrocopter.

The evening concluded with a selection of misdirected mail which produced transports of mirth at the obscure and unlikely routes taken by otherwise unexceptional mail. In May **Les Ashton-Smith** from Newport & Gwent PS presented a collection of stamps and trivial facts on *Fifteen vanished countries* from all over the world. Some of us knew something of some of them, but for the rest, we were informed and entertained in equal measure. I think several pub quiz teams will be competing to recruit Mr Ashton-Smith next season!

In June, **Nick Nelson** presented the *Stamps and History of Puerto Rico*. This collection was started by accident, namely by his wandering into a meeting of the National Philatelic Society of Puerto Rico while on business in San Juan! He comprehensively covered the stamp issues of the whole Spanish period and continued into the United States takeover, with the usual digressions en route. The screen presentation enabled close inspection of many of the stamps, to such an extent that one questioner wondered whether the 1868 issue of Queen Isabella of Spain was used as the model for Princess Fiona in the Shrek movies!



Janet Nelson Puerto Rico 1868

Kingston & District

We have not met since March 2020 due to Covid-19 restrictions but, like others, our computer-literate members have been joining through Zoom meetings. This has some great disadvantages and advantages. Those who are not computer-literate have been excluded from meeting and we all have missed the social interaction. A plus is the inclusion of members who have moved away from Kingston and those who are now not fit enough to get to meetings regularly. Also we have seen displays of stamps and postal history from collectors who live at a distance. For those latter reasons we are considering continuing with occasional Zoom meetings after we are able to resume regular gatherings. Briefly, displays we have seen are **Graeme Ashdown's** *The origins and development of air mail to and from New Zealand and the stamps*, **Graham Searle** from Aberdeen with a superb display of *Canada in the 1850's*, prior to the formation of the Dominion of Canada; **Keith Johnson** from Crewe explaining the delights of *Two remote Pacific islands in the Republic of Kiribati* and an excellent display of *Trans-Atlantic mail* from our longest serving member, **Michael Pitt-Payne FRPSL**, now living in Buckinghamshire. We also had displays from a number of our members. We hope that normal meetings can resume in September 2021. Our webmaster and Zoom host will give assistance and advice to displayers. Should you wish to join, contact him, as all are welcome. → www.kingstonphilatelicsociety.com Brian Sole FRPSL on 01932 220677 or brian.sole@btinternet.com C.E. Oliver

Lanarkshire

There is currently an air of anticipation amongst members of the Lanarkshire Philatelic Society. All are looking forward – with toes and fingers crossed – to Friday, 3rd September when, hopefully, our meetings will resume. A provisional

syllabus for the new session has been prepared. The Editor of our newsletter has given members much encouragement throughout the year to continue preparing displays for future viewing at the meetings. All look forward to displaying – and viewing – these! Meantime there is delight at member, **Dr Brian Dow**, being awarded a Vermeil for his display of *Norwegian Air Mail and Priority Labels 1926-2019* at Virtual Spring Stampex. Also a feeling of sadness at the passing – on 24th May - of a well-loved member, **Julia MacLeod**. She was well-known for her stamp and postcard displays – especially of St Kilda. Be ready for the 3rd September! → www.lanarkshireps.co.uk *Elsie Miller*

Leeds

Our 2020/2021 season ended on 25th May with our 24th Zoom meeting since June 2020. Eleven presentations from our members covered a diverse range of philatelic topics including mosaics on stamps, a detailed study of the halfpenny and an exploration of a philatelic journey from Londonderry to Edinburgh. Our members' improved skills and secure confidence in digital presentation (mainly using PowerPoint) were much in evidence. In 2020 we had planned several social gatherings over the summer. Regrettably due to Covid restrictions these were cancelled. This year we did meet socially in a member's large garden on 22nd June for conversations and refreshments. These included a cake baked by our youngest member (**Magnus Cameron**) which featured a Maltese Cross



cancellation. Our plans are to hold two more social gatherings over the summer before we open again for "normal" business with our first 2021/2022 meeting on 14th September. We expect a resumption of our annual Stamp Fair on 20th and 21st November. *Richard Smith*

Lostock

Our restart with afternoon meetings had to be postponed from July to Friday, 3rd September. Everything is in place for our first meeting in over twelve months -

hall and speaker booked, agenda re-written (again). We have emailed members and telephoned the non-computer ones. My wife had given permission for the extra Zoom sessions between normal live meetings to allow for those without wife who wanted to come along to our home to actually sit in on the Zoom session. Sincere thanks go to **John Sudall** who will be our first speaker in September, and to **Bernard Hooley** and **Harold Howard** for the next two meetings. This will mean a New Year change of plan for visiting speakers in early 2022. Our new member during lockdown **John Tuskin**, a retired military man, has boosted our morale by bringing Zoom to us and building our

confidence to use it to link with other ABPS societies.

A big thank you to John for joining us and for moral support and patience. John laughed his socks off at **Richard Smith's** article on page 28 of the summer issue of ABPS News about *Additions to the Philatelic Terms Dictionary and Phrasebook*. We are also 100% behind the valuable article *A Point of View* by **Jim Wigmore** who explains the future of all groups bringing Zoom into the mix. In 2015 we nearly closed – now we are actively looking forward to a different and challenging future.

David Morley



John in Gibraltar

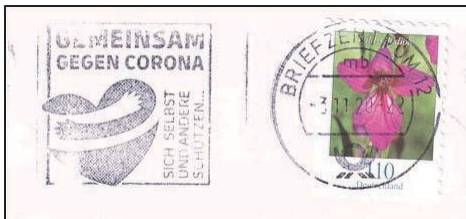
Maidstone & Mid-Kent

We have carried on with Zoom Presentations and have averaged around 15 participants including guests from Tunbridge Wells. Evening Meetings:- At the end of April our secretary **Margaret** stood in at short notice due to the sickness of our invited guest. She gave us a display of *Postal History of Strood and Rochester* (both Medway Towns). In May we were entertained by **Paul Davey** with *Poste Restante Mail* and *The Original Zurich Airport*. This was followed by **Ian Pinwell FRPSL** with a display of *Victorian Registration Sheets and The Post Office Telegraph Stamps*. Our final evening meeting of the season in June was by **Maurice Buxton** with *1971 Postal Strike Mail*. Morning Meetings:- We have had members' displays for the three morning meetings in May and June. They covered *Falklands, Czechoslovakia, The Rotary, NZ Chalons*, both stamps and postal history, *Forces Mail* and *Local Postal History*. We are due to go back to

'Together against Corona'

This slogan postmark came on a letter from Berlin: *Gemeinsam gegen Corona – sich selbst und andere schützen*: Together against Corona – protect yourself and others. There are bound to be many other examples of slogan postmarks dealing with the virus which might make for a new collecting area... or one-frame exhibit even.

Giles du Boulay



face-to-face meetings in September, and intend to hold members' displays up to Christmas and have invited guests from the start of 2022. We may decide to hold one meeting in the hall and the second monthly meeting on Zoom. This will be decided at the AGM.

Barry Stonestreet

Morecambe & District

And we're back!!

Having only managed our first meeting of the season in September 2020 before everything ground to a halt again, we held our last meeting of the season on 6th July and it was so lovely to see everyone again, even though we had to keep our distance! We had our usual end of season fish and chip supper and prize giving from the March 2020 competitions. I even managed to persuade the winners of the Postal History, Thematic and Single Page competitions to pose for a photo!



(left to right **John Atkinson**, **Chris Mount** and **Brian Jensen** with club president **Lesley Vincent** presenting a winner's certificate). We also held our AGM to draw a line under the last two years and be ready to start fresh in September with our first meeting of the year always being preparations for our annual Grand Auction, this year to be held on Saturday 9th October. Before that though we have our delayed Fair at the Platform, Morecambe on Sunday 22nd August. We are all looking forward to spending some money! Buying online is all very well but nothing beats talking to the dealers and rooting through miscellaneous boxes or stockbooks and finding that item on your wants list!

Lesley Vincent



Are you willing to support ABPS as we support British Philatelists?



The last 15 months have taught us to adapt to changing circumstances. For many of us learning the new skills of Video Conferencing has meant that we have been able to still meet our friends and keep in touch with our hobby. In fact it has opened up new opportunities to have contact with philatelists that would not have been possible in our 'normal' world.

As we are starting to consider a return to real meetings the Committee at ABPS is actively looking at ways where we might incorporate the new technologies with the traditional activities and so increase the participation by our members in their hobby. As part of this procedure, starting in January 2022, we are updating the benefits to philatelists who wish to support us with their patronage.

BENEFITS to our FRIENDS:

- ◆ Entry on the Friends' page on the ABPS website
- ◆ The right to wear an exclusive "ABPS" Lapel Badge
- ◆ A complimentary electronic copy of the ABPS News (or a printed copy if required)

In return for these benefits ABPS would ask that you support ABPS financially with a minimum donation of £25 per annum. If you would like more details on how to join as a Friend please do contact me direct.

Steve Harrison, Chairman (Elect), vicechair@abps.org.uk

Redditch

Our Zoom members' meetings have included displays by **Pete Elms, Bill Belford, Paul Veal, Chris Jackson, Malcolm Allinson, Roger Wood, Alan Spencer (Birmingham), Douglas Nethercleft, Bob Harper and Bill Pile.** **David Hutchins** gave us a full display with the intriguing title *From Tonga to Togo*. He explained that Tongan stamps were first inscribed TOGA. With TOGO being only one letter different, there was plenty of opportunity for a mix-up, even though one is in the Pacific and the other in West Africa. David started with a brief history of Tonga and its connection with Captains Bligh and Cook. The first King was George Tupou I (ruled 1875-1896) The first stamps (1d carmine) were supplied by the New Zealand Government Printing Office in 1886. We then moved on to Tin Can Mail on Niuafo'ou Island. Our next stop was Tongan Self Adhesive Coin stamps of 1963. Initially round in shape, future issues included a banana (1969). David then went via Fiji, with no obvious links but geographically close! Then came Niue which has a 'Togo chasm', a natural fissure in the volcanic rock of the island. Samoa followed being the main link in the chain. Under the 1899 Tripartite Agreement ending the Samoan Civil War, Britain relinquished its interests in Samoa but gained rights to places such as the Solomon Islands, Gold Coast and (finally) Togo in West Africa. Togoland was a German Protectorate. It was invaded in WWI and part became British in 1919. *From Halcyon Newsletter*



Ringwood

At our March meeting by Zoom, **Simon Richards FRPSL** displayed a fascinating and remarkable collection of *Dominica*, via a series of chapters. He traced the history of the island through maps, early covers and a detailed focus on stamp issues. Much consideration was given to proofs, colours and trials, with research evident on the printers and printings, De la Rue and later Waterlows. Among the display material were some rare and some unique archival items. A super display of high quality and we felt very privileged. In May



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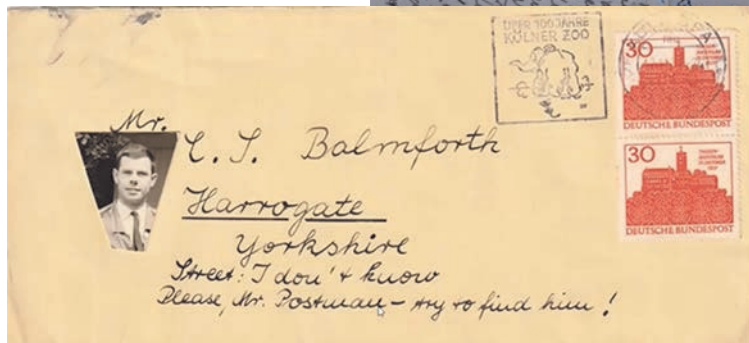
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Sue Burn presented *Flying Boats Across the Tasman Sea*. This was exceptional in terms of historical and geographic scope, philatelic scarcity, quality of display and presentation. Sue included much photographic documentation of plans and resulting planes and their pilots. Numerous maps supported the development of the narrative as do flight memorabilia such as timetables, advertising, flight and baggage tickets, covers and postmarks, postcards and handwritten letters, notes and press releases. To quote Sue, *'This talk covers the introduction and use of the Short Bros flying boats, in particular focusing on the route to New Zealand and the crossing of the Tasman Sea.'* And to quote pilot/adventurer Kingsford Smith 1928....this is *'the most difficult and dangerous crossing in the world'*. The presentation was in five sections, 1928 *The First Crossing of the Tasman*, 1933-36 *Setting the Scene - Mail Contracts*, 1937-39 *Empire Airmail Scheme*, 1939 - 45 *War Time Services* and 1945 - *Post War Services*.

From Ringwood Newsletters

Southampton & District

In April **Graham Winters** gave a very interesting presentation on the *Eleven Categories of Competition* with many splendid illustrations from his own exhibition displays. Later that month **Gerald Marriner** showed us *Postal History of the Belgian Congo during WWII* showing how difficult it was to get correspondence in and out of the country. The postcard shown was posted in November 1940 and was delivered in December 1946. Harrogate contacted us and in early May four of their members gave short displays across a range of subjects:



Bill Tait started with the *Hyperinflation in Germany, 1922 & 1923* and **David Druett** introduced us to the *Boston Forgers' Gang*.

We went underground with **Maria Gibson's** talk on the *Solidarity postal system in Poland* before returning to the UK when **Peter Rix** concluded the evening with some of his *Harrogate Oddities* including one from Lovelorn of Germany.

Towards month-end **Geoffrey Eibl-Kaye** displayed his *GB Booklets*. We had an extra evening when four of us showed to Harrogate. Both these evenings were very well-attended and we hope for another exchange evening with Harrogate early next year - any other societies interested? June began with **Colin Tabear**'s wonderfully diverse miscellany *Side-Tracked*, followed a fortnight later by **Steve Gerrard**'s collection of *The 1936 Berlin Summer Olympics*. With the resumption of Clubhouse meetings our programme will be augmented by video meetings on the last Tuesday of each month. You are welcome to join us. For the full programme → www.southamptondps.org.uk Eddie Mays

St Albans, Harpenden & District

Although normal meetings remain a distant memory, we nevertheless held two more online displays/meetings in April and May 2021. In April **Richard Smith** (Leeds) gave us two impressive and fascinating displays. *Cynicus - Postcards for All Time* told of the life of Martin Anderson (1854-1932) through his work, especially his postcards. His life proved to be a roller-coaster ride with periods of wealth and poverty as his work was in and out of fashion, not helped by his 1914 anti-war stance. In the second, *Does Philately Always Turn You into a Nerd?* Richard demonstrated how, with great skill and enthusiasm, he has pursued various philatelic interests. Whatever the answer to the question, we were given a most impressive display and the whole made for a most enjoyable evening. Our final online display came in May when **Simon Richards** presented *Dominica - stamps and postal history*. Taking us through the history of the island from its capture by Britain in 1759, we were shown a feast of rare material including early covers, scarce rates, die proofs, surcharges, bisects and colour trials. The replacement of Dominican stamps by Leeward Island federal issues in 1890 was explained as was their re-introduction in 1903 to replace lost philatelic revenue, and the display ended with the accession of George VI and de La Rue's unsuccessful essays for pictorial designs for the new reign. A magnificent end to a most unusual season. → www.stalbharpstampclub.org.uk or Peter Mellor 01582 762284 or p.mellor@btinternet.com Peter Mellor

Torquay and Teignbridge

With the recent postponement of the lifting of Covid restrictions until July, there is still some uncertainty over exactly when we can restart our face-to-face meetings, but we hope it will be before the end of July. The Committee has been planning what our new season will look like, and is currently considering 12 meetings a year, held monthly, supplemented by Zoom meetings across (at least) the winter months. But the club's membership has to discuss this and decide by voting, and we'll do this at our first meeting, which will also be an Annual General Meeting. Once we know how often, and when, we will be meeting, we can finalise the programme, and we will then publish it on our website, at www.torquayandteignbridgestampclub.org Our planned centenary celebrations have had to be scaled back, as there hasn't been the opportunity to meet and discuss ideas, or to book any venues for events. Instead, the focus of our celebrations will be the issue of a commemorative

centenary medal, and a commemorative cover, with specially printed "Boots" labels - things which have been relatively easy to organise by individuals during lockdown and other restrictions.

Dave Cleaver

Trafford

Well, we're here at last! I have no idea why it's taken Trafford Philatelic Society so many years to become ABPS members, having been formed as long ago as 1944 (originally as the Sale and District PS), but here we are! As president, and press secretary, I think it's essential to spread the word about our hobby, as perhaps the pandemic has demonstrated our ability to embrace new technology which may, just, be of interest to the younger philatelist. I read an article in a newspaper recently which suggested that philately may be coming back into fashion, so there's always hope! On a positive note; many of us have less to worry about in terms of job security and mortgages and not being able to attend raves! Also, quite a few of us have learned the new skill of using Zoom! Trafford PS has been tremendously successful in embracing Zoom, and we've noticed that the numbers attending our fortnightly meetings has been as high as, or even higher than, physically meeting at our regular Larkhill Centre, Timperley, venue. We've also had visitors from other clubs, as far afield as South Africa. Although one does miss the immediate social interaction of physical meetings, it is actually much easier to see the stamps and covers being displayed on a PC or laptop right in front of one's eyes. There are always positives in life, and Trafford PS is here, we're near, and delighted to be part of the ABPS family.

Chris Hawley

Wakefield

Continuing with Zoom meetings, in mid-March **Richard Wheatley** treated us to *Something Different* i.e. mail going into Meanwood Park Hospital; **David Druett** presented *A British Central Africa Card* containing a first Issue 1d Internal card, and **Mike Roberts** displayed *A Pakistan Cover dated 1947* from Karachi to London with a stamp stating "damaged by seawater" due to a plane crash. On



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31st March **Gerald Marriner** gave a postal history display entitled *The Belgian Congo WWII*. For our April meeting **Lubomir Spaceck** gave a display entitled *Imperial City Posts* which contained St. Petersburg postal history covers and **Graham Winters** presented some of his *Ceylon Postage Dues*. Then in May **William Smith** presented *The Concorde Story*, **Richard Wheatley** the *Official Assignee*, **Richard Hindle** had *Oddball Items* and **Mark Bailey** displayed two postcards which were cross written in French. Next **Chris King** joined our meeting with his display of *Copenhagen Telephone Kiosks*. In June **Maurice Buxton** took us back in time to *The 1971 Postal Strike* with his display of material based upon this period and later **Mike Roberts** took us to *Gambia during the reign of Queen Victoria*. On 23rd June **Mark Bailey** gave help with creating PowerPoint presentations and finally **Frank Walton** shared some *UK Revenues printed by Perkins Bacon*.
Julie Hitchcock

West London

Being a small society with one third of our membership not computer literate, we have not met since March 2020. The exception was a socially distanced meeting snatched between lock-downs in last October. Some of our more adventurous members have joined Zoom meetings hosted by our neighbouring societies of Kingston & District and Twickenham & District or have been busy bidding in stamp auctions throughout the land. We hope that normal meetings can resume in September 2021. General enquiries should be sent to the Secretary, Christopher E. Oliver FRPSL on 020 8940 9833 or olivers.of_ham@virgin.net
Chris Oliver

Woking and District

The second quarter of the year continued on Zoom with a good variety of subjects from *Queen Victoria*, with **Paul Wheeler** and **David Springett** showing many fine examples from around the Empire and Commonwealth from 1840 to 1900 with later commemorative issues. A WWII evening included examples of *Jersey occupation issues*, *Censor marks*, *Aerograms by Kodak* which reduced 50lb of post to 5oz, *Active service envelopes*, *POW and Red Cross postal messages*. Transport on stamps included *The Lake District Post Bus Service*, many examples of *Buses, Trams, Trains and Planes* on stamps plus *Dog Sled to Rickshaw from the US to Singapore*. **David Griffin** showed 1911 examples of *first UK airmail post and postcards*. Our President's evening evolved into a display of *Presidents, Prime Ministers and other national leaders* including a display of all deceased US Presidents, apparently living Presidents are not permitted on US stamps, a convention that I recall we used to follow for all living non-Royal persons, which has now been dropped. A New Acquisitions evening invited a broad variety of interesting finds and an African evening included **Paul Wheeler**, a stalwart of Zoom presentations, showing *British Central Africa, high value Natal and Orange Free State issues*. We are deeply grateful to **Mick Coad** for hosting our Zoom meetings, but plan to meet together from September, venue and speakers having been booked and programmes printed; we just need the all clear to proceed.
Brian Sheriff

Specialist & National Societies

Channel Islands SS

We held our 17th April meeting online. Society president, **Gerald Marriner**, and auctioneer, **Nick Stuart**, gave displays. Gerald's was *Jersey and Sark Destination Mail* and Nick's *Errors, Flaws and Constant Varieties for Guernsey First Pre-decimal and Decimal Definitives*. Our April auction had 750 lots covering every aspect of Channel Islands mail. Reserves were from £2 to £260 for the 80 bidders, giving best results for the past seven years. Highlights



included an 1864 Jersey-France QV entire with 1d reds struck with several cachets including an ILES C GRANVILLE date-stamp which sold for £100 (1).

Occupation material attracted many bids. The star lot among Occupation stamps was a complete sheet of the Guernsey 2½d Arms from the 4th printing which sold for £325 (2). A hotly contested 1944 *Feldpost* cover sent from Jersey to Clifford Queree (a prisoner in Frankfurt) sold for



£220 (3). The highlight of the Sub-Post Office section was a 1958 FDC of the 3d Regional stamp sent to Canada cancelled with the very scarce Pleinmont Road date-stamp. It sold for £275 (4).

Separately, member **Jon Aitchison** gave a Zoom presentation on 22nd April to members of the Royal about *Herm*. The subjects of Jon's talk included skulduggery, smugglers, inappropriate marriages, wallabies, a post office in a pub and even an RDP. It presented 300 years of postal history through the lives of the colourful tenants of this small Channel Island. By kind permission of the Royal's President, all members of CISS were invited to attend the meeting. →

www.ciiss.uk

Steve Wells

Czechoslovakia PS of Great Britain

We held our second Zoom meeting on 24th April hosted again by **Mark Wilson** in the USA and chaired by **Hans van Dooremalen** from the Netherlands. A total of 34 members attended the session from many countries. Four members gave mini displays: **Keith Brandon** on *The Postal History of Košice*, **Hans van Dooremalen** showed his research into the *First Post Office in Brno*, **Peter Williams** gave some background to the *Česko-Slovenský Stát overprints of 1918* and **Lindy Bosworth** displayed examples of the postcards produced for three major non-philatelic *Prague exhibitions at the end of the nineteenth century*. The afternoon finished with five members showing items in a Show-and-Tell section, where members required information on one item from their collection.

Bob McLeod

Faroe Islands Study Circle

As reported in the Spring *ABPS News*, we are celebrating our 30th anniversary. The latest edition of our journal (called "238") marked this with special content. Our chairman, **Alasdair MacEachen**, and our co-founder, **Marilyn Amedro**, contributed introductory pieces about this milestone in our history. **Norman Hudson**, our journal editor since 1995 (and secretary since 1998), had written a series of shorter articles on the theme of "30". First was *the Faroe Islands' 30th postage stamp* - a 140 øyru stamp, issued in April 1978, showing a gannet. Part of a complete sheet of 20 was illustrated signed by **Terence Beyer**, the stamp's engraver. The second was *The Faroes' 30th post office*. This opened in the village of Skáli, on the island of Eysturoy, in 1918. Its closure in 2008 was just one of many in the first decade of this century. 30 kilometres by road from Tórshavn, the capital, will bring you to the former whaling station at við Áir. It closed in 1984 and is said to be one of only three former whaling stations still standing anywhere in the world. In the main article, members were invited to celebrate the anniversary by taking a tour of Tórshavn in the latest instalment of the *"Philatelic Island Portraits"* by **Rolf Dörnbach**. A major piece of publicity for

Residential recommendations

If your society has a good experience at a residential "philatelic weekend" with good speakers or seminars please let us know. Why not take the opportunity to write a report too and send the details of the venue at the same time? You might be helping others. Send to editor@abps.org.uk

us came in February when Posta, the Faroe Islands' postal service, published a two-page article about us in its regular *Posta Stamps* booklet, sent to its customers worldwide.

Norman Hudson

Great Britain Philatelic Society

We held our first physical meeting for over a year at the Royal in May. It was a mixed live and Zoom meeting. The President's Display was held in the morning: *The British Stamp Office - Revenue Stamps from the 17th Century to the 19th*

Century was given by **Chris Harman RDP HonFRPSL**

He showed the use of the stamps to collect taxes and duty on a wide range of goods and services including bank notes, hats, gloves and even playing cards. A receipt to the Duke of Norfolk for over 30 lbs of chocolate from the 18th Century attracted particular interest. Chris showed a remarkable selection of material



including proofs and essays, with a great depth of knowledge and excellent presentation. In the afternoon the Immediate Past President's Display: *A Jubilee Reminiscence - A Philatelic History of the 1890 Penny Postage Jubilee*, postponed from last year was given by **John Davies FRPSL**. This detailed the celebrations for the fiftieth anniversary of the introduction of Uniform Penny Postage including Britain's first commemorative postal stationery and the first decorative handstamps from the Guildhall Exhibition. There was also a section on the genesis of the Jubilee Envelope and the South Kensington Post Office Exhibition. John's book on this subject was published by the Royal Philatelic Society in 2020. Our June display was given by **Steve Harrison FRPSL**. It featured *The Philatelic Congress of Great Britain* with material from 1909 to 1953. → www.gbps.org.uk

John Davies

Malaya Study Group

We, like much of society philately, have had to operate via Zoom since Spring 2020. Despite welcoming it as a stopgap measure it lacks the intimacy of a real live philatelic meeting but on the other hand as we have members from all over the world attendance at our meetings has been better than ever. So perhaps the way forward is a mixture of live and electronic meetings. On 24th April, we held our auction as a postal one this time. Our chairman **Dominic Morris** is to be congratulated for a highly successful solo very hard work achievement. 19th June, again on Zoom, was our AGM followed by two Zoom presentations: **Michael Waugh** with *Malaya Aerophilately from the start until 1942*, competition between KLM and Imperial Airways, and **Andrew McClellan** showing a most

informative display with commentary of the *Overprinted Revenues of Malaya during the Japanese occupation 1942-1946*. Our webpage has been reorganised. For all interested in Malaya philately it is a society well worth the small fee for joining.

Michael Waugh

The National

We plan to resume our Saturday London meetings from September, but they will be bimonthly for the time being, rather than monthly as in the past. The first meeting is set for Saturday 11th September while the November meeting on Saturday the 6th will include an Annual General Meeting and a grand room and postal auction. There may be some virtual meetings for the intervening months. The venue for the London meetings will be The Phoenix Centre, Phoenix Place, London WC1X 0DL (close to The Postal Museum). Naturally this is subject to change due to the Covid situation. The June issue of *Stamp Lover* revealed that **Keith Johnson** won the Johnson Literary Award. His three-part series of features, *Tennyson through Philately*, published in the August, October and December issues of *Stamp Lover* during 2020 had been voted by readers their favourite 2020 *Stamp Lover* feature. It was only the second time Keith wrote a feature article for *Stamp Lover*. He also won the award with his first effort! This was *Fanning Island, the Pacific Island tied up with cable history* published in the August 2014 issue. This time Keith wrote about his other philatelic interest, Alfred Lord Tennyson, because he was born in the same county, Lincolnshire.

Voting for the Johnson Literary Award closed in April. → www.ukphilately.org.uk/nps



Keith Johnson

Michael L. Goodman

The Royal

Postal reforms study receives prestigious award

We are pleased to announce the recipient of our prestigious Crawford Medal for 2021. The award has been made to **James L Grimwood-Taylor** for his book *International Postal Reforms*, published by the society in 2020 in two volumes. The Crawford Medal is awarded each year for the most valuable and original contribution to the study and knowledge of philately published in book form. In the first volume of Grimwood-Taylor's new examination of the history of international postal reforms, *Postal Reforms and the Historical Background to the Postage Stamp 1550 to 1839*, the author studies in detail Rowland Hill's 1837 Post Office Reform. This publication places Hill's work in its true historical context and traces the origins of the high postal rates that he sought to reduce. The second volume, *The Birth of the Postage Stamp and its International Effects 1840 to 1898*, traces the story of the introduction of cheap postage in Britain and around the world following the August 1839 'Penny Postage' Act. The author has been a stamp collector from the age of three and a full-time professional postal

historian since the age of 22. He always intended one day to write the definitive study of how and why Rowland Hill's reforms succeeded; this two-volume book is the result, illustrating more than 800 items from his own collections.

A Northern Regional Meeting was organised by **Yvonne Wheatley FRPSL** in



Daphne McMillan FRPSL mid-display

York just before the release from all restrictions. With some trepidation she carried on and we were all rewarded for her courage by having an excellent meeting, with many people attending and giving a fascinating series of displays on a multitude of subjects

including an amusing PowerPoint display by **Magnus Cameron** (Leeds) at his first Royal event.

CAPEX '22: FIP

One Frame Stamp Championship Exhibition in Toronto, Canada, 9th to 12th June 2022

This exhibition is setting a new benchmark for international philately as it will be the first major show dedicated to One Frame exhibits. The event has FIP recognition. Exhibits must only be of one frame of the equivalent of 16 standard -size sheets, but can be based on Traditional, Postal History, Postal Stationery, Aero, Astro, Thematic, Maxi, Revenue, Modern, Picture Postcard or Open. There is also a Youth category and a Literature Class.

Full details can be found on the CAPEX '22 website: capex22.org/

Any one frame exhibit that has achieved 75 marks at a previous FIP event or at a National exhibition is eligible to apply.

If you need to get a new exhibit qualified, then please don't delay in entering Autumn Stampex (29th September to 2nd October 2021) at the Business Design Centre in London.

You can enter Stampex online via: www.abps.org.uk/exhibitions/ If you have any questions or have trouble with any aspect of this process please contact **Nick Martin** by email at exhibiting@abps.org.uk

The UK Commissioner for CAPEX '22 is **Frank Walton**.

Please email to frank@frankwalton.com if you have any questions.

South African Collectors'

Like many other Philatelic Societies, we have developed our skills in Zoom presentations during the lock-downs, with able assistance from our host on these meetings, **Tony Johnson**. Our latest Zoom meeting took place on 22nd May with three good displays keeping our attention riveted. On the following afternoon a successful Zoom auction was held with our auctioneer exhausted after the experience. → Christopher Oliver 020 8940 9833 or olivers.of_ham@virgin.net for other details of the society. Chris Oliver

Sudan Study Group

We have maintained our presence in the world through quarterly Zoom sessions. Our last meeting in April included many members from overseas (USA, Egypt etc) who wouldn't normally be able to attend meetings in the UK - one of the great advantages of Zoom. The April Zoom session lasted just over 2 hours with a variety of speakers presenting their current projects – many of them works in progress. Though the theme of the meeting was *Sudan post-1954 independence*, there were several other less specific presentations. One major presentation was the study of the stamps of the *Republic of South Sudan* by **William Barclay & Leo van der Velden**. This work is being prepared for release as an e-book by us in the near future. In June we ran our annual Summer Auction, all online, of course. There were over 150 items up for sale with a range of prices from just a few £s to over £100. Something to meet everyone's budget hopefully. One outstanding item that attracted a lot of attention was the complete 1935 set of General Gordon memorial stamps on a registered cover (1). Interestingly the original painting for these stamps had been lost for many decades, but was recently re-discovered by an SSG member in the Royal Engineer's museum where it had long been incorrectly attributed and dated. The painting, done in 1911, is by the well-known portrait artist **Catherine Oules**, She consulted many sources to get the dress code for Gordon correct (2). Malcolm Coe



ABPS updates

Below are changes which could affect your contacting or visiting a society. Other changes appear on the website abps.org.uk Please send any amendments or error notifications as soon as possible to me at editor@abps.org.uk I will pass them on and/or use them as necessary. Please note the changes below.

Specialist Societies

Burma (Myanmar) Philatelic Circle's secretary has a new email address:
michaelwhittaker@pobroadband.co.uk

Helvetia Philatelic Society has a new secretary: **Mike Sharp** 01905423091
secretary@swiss-philately.co.uk

Local Societies

Cardiff Philatelic Society has a new secretary: **Roger Gilbert** 07740355282
secretary@cardiffphilatelicsociety.org.uk

Epping Forest & District Stamp Club has rejoined ABPS after a number of years. Our contact is **Roger Pearce** rodwin@talk21.com Welcome back.

Great Yarmouth Stamp Club will now meet monthly all year on the second Monday at 7.30pm at The Cobholm Community Centre, St. Luke's Terrace, Cobholm, **Great Yarmouth**, Norfolk NR31 0AP

Lostock Philatelic Society has changed to meeting from 1 to 3 on the first Friday of each month at the same venue.

Maidstone & Mid-Kent Philatelic Society has a new acting secretary: Miss Margaret Emerson 01622 758157 stamp.mags@btinternet.com

Stroud & District Philatelic Society is moving to meetings as follows each month: 1st Thursday starting 2.30, 3rd Thursday starting 7.30

Trafford Philatelic Society has joined ABPS. The secretary is **David Sigeo** dsigeo@btinternet.com Welcome

We regret to report that **East Worthing Stamp Club** is closing and that the following societies are no longer affiliated to ABPS: **Blyth Philatelic Society**, **Colwyn Bay Philatelic Society** and **Old Eastwood Stamp Club**.



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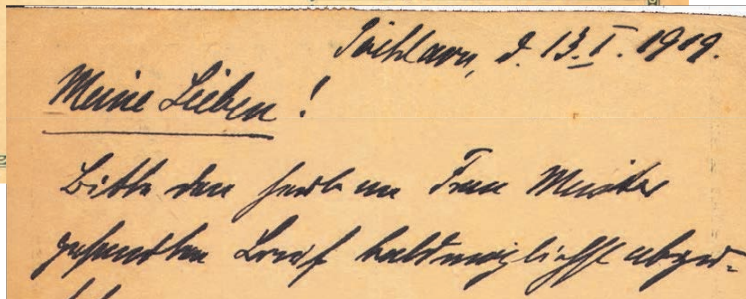
GHOSTS FROM THE PAST

The tale I shall tell lies in the past practices of many collectors, and I'll recount it to you as a warning. Are you sitting comfortably? Then I'll begin. In 2011 – on Halloween, to be specific – while I was remounting some Newspaper Post items,



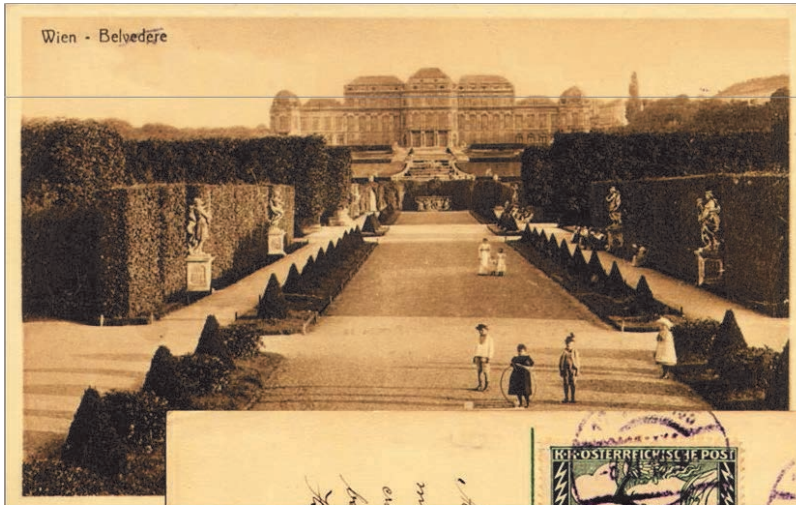
a couple of ghosts emerged to disturb my work. The first ghost was hiding behind a postal stationery card, posted on 13th January 1919.

It's a Kaiser Karl 8h card, updated with a 2h newspaper express adhesive, and sent from Pöchlarn to Freilassing in Bavaria. The address and message are in heavy black ink.



The item had been mounted with photo corners on a Rapkin sheet which is now buff-coloured. When I removed it, the ghost was revealed! The acid present in the

paper has attacked the back of the card, transferring some of the colour to the paper, and darkening the card - but leaving a shadow of the ink.



The second ghost is more elusive – it is quite difficult to take a photograph of transparent plastic! This card, with a sepia picture of children posed in the Lower Belvedere gardens in Vienna, was sent to Villach on 8th Nov 1919. It's franked with a 5h Deutschösterreich-overprint and a 5h newspaper express adhesive: the validity is questionable but the Post Office didn't object. The mounting sheet



has not attacked the card, probably because the picture is glossy. However, the card was mounted in a PVC sleeve, and the plasticisers have attacked the stamps, transferring a ghostly outline to the PVC.

Andy Taylor

Caveat Emptor

When I had made a purchase on eBay, the Royal Mail left a card saying I had to pay £2 for the item (see below).



It transpired the vendor of the item had purchased some UK postage on eBay, which turned out to be counterfeit, at a very reasonable price!

Hence the "Invalid Stamp" on the label, so be warned if you intend purchasing UK postage from eBay.

So how was the stamp identified as "Invalid"?

Is there anyone in the ABPS or a contact in the Post Office who could explain how the forgery was picked up? *Des Kent*

P.S. After contacting the vendor, I immediately received a £2 refund.

The Free French in London 1940-1945

by Peter A Baker



The Free French in London 1940 - 1945

*A review of the postal history & other associated
London based organisations
by
Peter A. Baker*



4, Carlton Gardens, London, S.W.1

The Stuart-Rossiter Trust

A review of the postal history of the Free French & associated London-based organisations.

Based on the author's extensive research this work explores a fascinating but little known aspect of WWII.

It covers censor marks, cachets resealing tapes or labels and postmarks, relating to the Free French Army, Navy, Air Force and the Courier Service, Liberation and National Committees, and undercover addresses. Highly recommended to all who are interested in WWII, or censorship or British or French Postal History.

A4 softback, 64 pages, copiously illustrated in colour.

Available for **£9.50**
from www.rossitertrust.com

A Definitive Question

During the lockdowns, with my stamp club closed until further notice and our local stamp fairs also closed due to the impossible regulations to keep them open, I have engaged in a number of stamp studies.

One of those is an exercise to define: 1. A stamp. 2. A postage stamp, and 3. An adhesive postage stamp. It gets more difficult the more one thinks about it. For example, should postal stationery stamps be included? And what about Horizon labels? Post and Go stamps (labels) seem straight forward, but what about similar labels but without a picture on them, as used by some foreign countries? How does one include all that should be included and exclude anything else which is not applicable.

I would like to ask ABPS readers for their opinions and comments and if they have a definition to offer. Is anyone able to direct me to similar research by anyone else? I will be grateful to receive some ideas and views from other philatelists. Please send your thoughts to: mail@richardcamp.co.uk

Richard Camp (Telford)

A Few More Philatelic Anagrams

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Sank a pit.....Since 1947 | 6. Routine Ace.....Sells lots of stamps |
| 2. Linen cabinet4800 months | 7. Alpine set.....Was once a mandate |
| 3. Cause to lag ... but keep up to date | 8. Are dumb.....Shorts are popular |
| 4. Rotten ramsVolcanic Island | 9. Sore Grief.....Caveat Emptor |
| 5. Regent MoonA Tito land | |

Answers next time - if needed

Yeovil & District Philatelic Society

Stamp & Postcard Fair

11th September 2021

Digby Memorial Hall

Digby Road

Sherborne

Dorset DT9 3NL

from 10am to 4pm

Teas, Coffee & Ploughman`s Lunches

Contact David Bryant 01460 74422

British Stamp news



The pandemic has stopped many things but not the production of new issues. I have been looking at my GB from the 1980s - they all fit on 3 pages of my album with plenty of space between - so about 7 or 8 sets with 4 stamps in each set - say 30 stamps per year. Now we have on average a set per month each with what seems to be a dozen different stamps or formats - how surprising that I have given up trying for completeness. That doesn't include the annual outpourings from the definitive and regionals after increases in charges. What have recent issues included? It was not surprising that Royal Mail have remembered Prince Philip after his death and the stamps pleased me. I hope that they brought good memories for the Queen.

I have a soft spot for the Beatles (shades of my youth) and so honouring Sir Paul McCartney was OK with me - but 12 individual stamps seems a bit excessive. If

Royal Mail thought that far ahead, perhaps the 70th Anniversary of Dennis the Menace was intended to brighten us up in difficult times but 10 stamps including a special comic strip in the Presentation Pack suggest that there was some other motive. Am I sounding cynical? In the same vein earlier this year we had "Only Fools and





Horses" stamps. Though I enjoyed the programmes I found the stamps to be fussy and not to my taste - and too many again. Perhaps you disagree. As a Lancastrian I could not accept the Battle of Bosworth as being a 2nd Class stamp - we won so it

must have been 1st Class. I like history so the stamps are interesting and informative, but the stamp size is not right for such a lot of content. As travelling abroad has been made more difficult are the most recent Wild Coast stamps an attempt to



provide us with ideas for staycations? Both of these last two sets will provide superb material for thematic collections so perhaps we will see some of them at Stampex in September - I hope so. The latter set are good for their detail and relative simplicity - but another 14 stamps to collect, oh dear.

Despite all my mail I have yet to see any of the stamps that I have mentioned on my received or sent envelopes! Hard to buy them at my local shop!

The Editor's views are not necessarily those of the ABPS



Does your affiliated society need a website?

Our former secretary is very willing to help you if you can find someone willing to set up and run the website for you. I did it so I am sure that you can - but first you have to affiliate, find a volunteer and then give it a go.

Contact Neil Ritchie on neilritchie@netscape.net

Editor

STAMP ACTIVE AT AUTUMN STAMPEX

with £20 Vouchers for Kids

The Stamp Active Network, the voluntary organisation that promotes stamp collecting for children in the UK, will be at Autumn Stampex providing free stamps and goodie bags for young collectors. There will be a range of free activities with prizes including Stamp Art fun. It is also hoped that it will be possible to run the popular free children's auction on the Saturday with appropriate social distancing measures in place. The event will be fully compliant with any Covid restrictions.



Stamp Active will also be giving vouchers to fifty youngsters U18 that attend Stampex, worth £20 each, to spend with dealers at Stampex. Ten vouchers will be available on each of the first three days with a maximum of fifty vouchers overall to be given out during the show.

Autumn Stampex will take place at the Design Centre, Islington, London from 29th September to 2nd October. The nearest underground station is Angel.

For further information, → Stamp Active website www.stampactive.co.uk



The latest craze in Ross-on-Wye.

In June, Ross-on-Wye town centre was "yarn-bombed", with secret knitters providing berets for bollards, corsets for lampposts and a host of other artistic efforts to brighten the urban landscape.

The three town centre mail boxes provided scope for some larger projects.

Janet Nelson

It must have made writing and posting a letter even more fun than usual. Editor



Diary for the next few months

Don't forget to check before making a journey.

Local and regional events by ABPS members

2021

August

- 22 Morecambe Stamp Fair: 10 - 3, The Platform, Old Station Buildings, Marine Rd West, **Morecambe** LA4 4DB → Frank Colling 01524 733589 or lesleyvincent1@sky.com

September

- 4 RINGPEX: 10 - 4, Greyfriars Community Centre, Christchurch Road, **Ringwood** BH24 1 DW
- 11 Yeovil Stamp & Postcard Fair: 10 - 4, Digby Memorial Church Hall, Digby Road, **Sherborne**, Dorset, DT93NL
- 23 to 26 GB Philatelic Congress: Crowne Plaza Hotel, Kings Road, **Harrogate** HG1 1XX
- 25 HAMPEX: 10 - 4, Wickham Centre, Mill Lane, **Wickham**, PO17 5AL → www.hantsfederation.org.uk/hpfpeople.htm#hampex

October

- 15 to 17 Gibraltar Study Circle Competition Weekend: Golden Lion Hotel, 114 High Street, **Northallerton** DL7 8PP
- 23 Huntingdonshire Philatelic Society Stamp & Post Card Fair: 10 - 3, Corn Exchange **St Ives** PE27 5AG → David Birkert 01480 468037
- 30 CORNEX: 10 - 4, Millennium Hall, Princess Road, **Pensilva, Liskeard** PL14 5NF → 01288 381489

November

- 6 Taunton Stamp Club Annual Stamp Fair: 10 - 4, St James Church Hall, St James Street, **Taunton** TA1 1JS → Peter Hardie 01823 666371
- 13 Maidstone & Mid Kent PS Stamp Fair: 10 - 3, Grove Green Community Centre (opp Tesco's), Maidstone, Kent ME14 5BT → Brian Stonestreet 01622 675784

2022

June

- 11 SWINPEX 2022: St. Joseph's Academy, Ocotal Way, **Swindon** SN3 3LR

National Exhibitions 2021

Held at Business Design Centre, 52 Upper Street, Islington, **London** N1 0QH unless otherwise stated

- 29th September - 2nd October 2021 AUTUMN STAMPEX 2021: Competitive exhibition. The British Thematic Association will lead. (Coordinator: Barry Stagg)

International Exhibitions 2021-2023

- **PHILANIPPON 2021. Japan World Stamp Championship Exhibition 2021.** Held at Pacifico Yokohama Hall B/C, Yokohama, Japan from 25th – 30th August 2021. A full international exhibition under FIP patronage and FIAP auspices. Website www.japan2021.jp Entries are now closed - 16 entries from the UK. UK Commissioner **Simon Richards** at simon@sidebell.co.uk
- **IPEX 2021 International Philatelic Exhibition, Cape Town, South Africa.** This has now been postponed for the second time. For further details → UK commissioner, **Jon Aitchison** at britishlocals@aol.com 01279 870488
- **NOTOS 2021 European Philatelic Exhibition, Athens, Greece.** Held at Zappeion (venue change) from 19th – 22nd November 2021. Website hps.gr/notos2021 A full European international with FEPA patronage and FIP recognition. Entry deadline: Closed – 27 UK entries accepted. UK commissioner, **Jon Aitchison** at britishlocals@aol.com 01279 980488
- **LONDON 2022** held at The Business Design Centre, Islington, London from 19th to 26th February. Specialised World Stamp Championship Exhibition with FIP patronage and FEPA recognition. Closed to new entries. UK Commissioner: Mike JY Roberts (ukcommissioner@london2020.co). → www.london2022.co
- **HUNFILEX 2022 Specialised World Stamp Championship Exhibition. Budapest, Hungary.** Held at Bálna (The Whale), Budapest, Hungary from 31st March to 3rd April 2022. The exhibition has FIP patronage and FEPA recognition. Website www.hunfilex2022.com Available classes are World Championship Class, Traditional Philately, Postal History, Revenues, Thematic, Open Class, One Frame and Literature. The entry date is passed. The UK commissioner is **Bill Hedley** at ewlhedley@gmail.com 01892 531516.
- **HELVETIA 2022 Specialised World Exhibition, Lugano, Switzerland.** Held at the Padiglione Conza Convention Centre, Lugano, Switzerland from 18th to 22nd May 2022. The exhibition has FIP patronage and FEPA recognition. Website <https://www.helvetia2022.ch> Available classes are World Stamp Championship Class, Traditional Philately, Postal History, Postal Stationery, Aerophilately, Thematic, One Frame and Literature. Frame fees are CHF80 per frame or CHF100 for one frame entries and Literature Class. UK handling and transport charge is £25 per frame. UK deadline for entries is 7th October 2021. → the UK commissioner **Chris King** at chris.king@postalhistory.net 0208 346 1366.
- **CAPEX 2022 Toronto, Canada:** Held at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre from 9th to 12th June 2022. Hosted by the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada under the Patronage of FIAP with FIP recognition. All One-Frame sub-classes plus literature. Website www.capex2022.org The frame fee for One-Frame exhibits is US\$125 and literature is US\$80, plus the UK handling charge of £30. Youth entries are free. Deadline for entries is 30th November 2021. → UK commissioner **Frank Walton** at frank@frankwalton.com Information is at: www.capex2022.org

• **LIBEREC 2022:** European Stamp Exhibition and Polar Salon, Czech Republic. To be held at the Wellness Hotel Babylon, Liberec, Czech Republic from 13th to 16th October 2022, with FEPA patronage and FIP recognition. Website liberec2022.eu Available classes are Grand Prix, Traditional, Postal History, Thematic, Open Philately, Picture Postcards, Youth, Literature and One-Frame. Two and three frame exhibits are accepted as well as the usual one, five and eight. Frame fees are 40 euros per frame for 5 or 8 frame exhibits, 45 euros for 3 frame, 50 euros for 2 frame and 55 euros for one frame and literature, with Youth exhibits being free. The UK handling charge of £25 per frame also applies. Information is at www.liberec2022.eu The deadline for entries is 31st January 2022. → the UK commissioner **Steve Harrison** at sharrison500@btinternet.com or phone him on 0121 313 0671.

• **SOUTH AFRICA 2021, Cape Town, South Africa** 8th - 12th November 2022 FIP patronage. UK Commissioner: Jon Aitchison britishlocals@aol.com Further information on classes, dates and IREX → www.capetown2021.org Entry deadline 15th May 2022

• **IBRA2023 World Stamp Exhibition, Essen, Germany.**

Held at the Messe Essen from 25th – 28th May 2023 (Date change). Website www.ibra2023.de A full international exhibition under FIP patronage with FEPA recognition. All FIP classes are accepted at 80€ per frame, 110€ for single frame exhibits and 50€ for literature, plus a UK handling and transport charge of £25 per frame. UK deadline for entries is September 2022. For entries → the UK commissioner **Frank Walton** at frank@frankWalton.com

UK handling charges have now been standardised on all international exhibitions at £25 per frame for shows in Europe or £30 for events anywhere else in the world, whether single or multiple frame exhibits, and £25 per literature entry. This is to cover the cost of getting exhibits to and from exhibitions, FIP capitation fees and other costs relating to processing the exhibits. Overall this runs at a loss. Exhibits that are carried to and returned from an exhibition by the exhibitor are charged at half price. There is no UK handling charge for Youth exhibits. If you are interested in becoming a United Kingdom international exhibition commissioner → **Jon Aitchison** at britishlocals@aol.com

Details of FEPA exhibitions are at <http://www.fepanews.com/>

Web information

Further information can be found on the ABPS website www.abps.org.uk on the "Exhibiting" tab. *Simon Richards, Chairman ABPS International & Exhibitions Committee* Simon@sidebell.co.uk

WORLD POST DAY

Can YOU think of a way to get our hobby noticed in the UK on
World Post Day 9th October,
marking the anniversary of the foundation of the Universal Postal Union?

From Basildon Philatelist

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Editor ABPS, 6 Old Trough Way, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG1 3DE

Stamp Active Network: please write to:

SAN, c/o 21 The Bridle, Woodham, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham DL5 4TH

ABPS News is published by the Association of British Philatelic Societies.

Website www.abps.org.uk This also holds further information on Committees.

October in London



Our **British Empire & Foreign Countries** auction on **October 5** will include the latest in our popular sections of Falkland Islands & Antarctica and will feature the exceptional collection formed by the late Eric Phillpott.

Our **Specialised Great Britain** auction on **October 7** will present a broad spectrum of material including a fine offering from the collection of the late J M Allison.

Complimentary copies of the sale catalogues will be sent on request and both auctions will be available to view, with additional illustrations, on our website www.grosvenorauctions.com. Contact **Constanze Dennis** at the address below for further information on future opportunities for vendors.

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Wednesday September 8th 2021

Featuring the **Roger Broomfield** collection of Herefordshire postal history,
and the **Glen Wilson** collections of the Greenock and Ardrishaig Packet, Clyde Steamers,
Clyde Built Ships, the Clan Line, and Greenock (inc. ship letters).

Also including our usual offerings of superb Great Britain and Worldwide stamps and postal history.



Tuesday October 5th 2021

The **Geoff Whitehead** collection of classic stamps & postal history including Australian States,
Canada & Provinces, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, France, German & Italian States, USA,
and superb GB Mulreadies & line-engraved stamps.



Wednesday October 6th 2021

The **Duncan** collection of Great Britain line-engraved stamps & postal history,
much of which has not been on the market for 20-40 years.



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